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The China Mail

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TO-DAY'S DOLLAR.—The closing rate of the dollar on demand, to-day was 1s 2½d.

No. 27,935

HONG KONG, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1931.

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LEAGUE COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION.

JAPAN TO BRING TROOPS TO RAILWAY ZONE

BY NOVEMBER 16, 1931.

COUNCIL HAS DONE WELL TO ADJOURN.

Geneva, Yesterday.

The League Council has resolved to call on the Japanese Government immediately to begin progressively to proceed with the withdrawal of its troops into the railway zone, which withdrawal should be completed before November 16, when the Council will meet again.

All members of the League Council are confident that their efforts are bound to be successful. Tangible evidence of the United States' determination that the peace of the world should be preserved is seen in the American association with the Council which is regarded as the most encouraging sign of all.

British circles are of the opinion that the Council has done well to adjourn.

Geneva, Yesterday.

Compared with the resolution adopted by the Council on September 30 to-day's draft resolution is interesting both by reason of what it includes and what it omits.

First: Mention is made of the Paris Pact, also the Nine Power Treaty, neither of which was mentioned in the earlier resolution. This tends to both strengthen the present resolution and place it on a wider basis.

Second: It is noteworthy that the date for the total withdrawal of Japanese troops is very definitely fixed as November 16, and it is recommended that direct negotiations should begin as soon as evacuation has been completed and not concurrently therewith. This gives satisfaction to one of the Chinese demands.

Third: No foreign supervision in connection with the withdrawal of Japanese troops is suggested, but China is asked to consent to the presence of representatives of other Powers who will follow the execution of arrangements for ensuring the safety of lives and property of Japanese subjects.

Fourth: There is no mention in the resolution of the recognition of rights under existing treaties, though both the Chinese and Japanese Governments are to begin direct negotiations on outstanding questions as soon as evacuation has been completed. Such questions include recent incidents as well as existing difficulties in connection with railways in Manchuria. There is, however, no allusion to the alleged Japanese demands, as reported from Tokyo, of any indemnity payable on account of railways built with Japanese capital.

Neither the Japanese nor Chinese delegations were prepared to comment on the text of the resolution to-night. It is believed that they are awaiting instructions from their Governments before expressing an opinion.

China's Cards on Table.

It is understood in Chinese diplomatic quarters in London that China has put all her cards on the table and still adheres to her resolve to abide by the decisions of the League Council.

A British Opinion.

Geneva, Yesterday. British circles are of the opinion that the Council's suggestion for a settlement of the Manchurian crisis will not be allowed to go by default. It is understood that the representatives of the Powers, mentioned in the Council's resolution, who will follow out the execution of China's arrangements for the safety of Japanese nationals as laid down in the League Council's resolution, will be civil and military officials of the various Powers on the spot, such as Military Attaches, Consuls, etc.

An Extraordinary Discovery.

An extraordinary situation was revealed at the end of to-day's proceedings when it was stated, on excellent authority, that neither party had hitherto been induced to make a precise detailed statement of claims, and nothing whatever is known by the Council of the Five Points said to have been put forward by Japan as her desiderata. Hence, it became imperative for the Council itself to draw up some practical resolution.

U.S. Aloofness Explained.

Washington, Yesterday. The sudden appearance of aloofness on the part of the United States in regard to Manchuria is explained here as natural, since the League now is approaching the problem under the provisions of the Covenant in which the United States has no right to participate.—Reuter.

POLE AND PERSIAN ARRESTED.

An Alleged Attempted Trick.

IN A PAWNSHOP.

The arrest was effected at a pawnshop in West Point last night of a Polish merchant and a Persian music hall artiste, who are alleged to have attempted to obtain money for a worthless ring.

The arrest has connected them with another allegation.

It is said that on October 3, at the Tung Hing pawnshop the Pole pawned a ring valued at \$1,000 for \$600. Later he pawned another ring, worth over \$100 for the price of \$50. The following night, the Persian expressed the desire to redeem the ring that had been pawned for only \$50. The ring was handed over and \$50 given to the pawnbroker. The next night the two men returned for the purpose of redeeming the \$1,000 ring. The pawnbroker placed the ring on a counter, his attention was occupied by various other customers, and the Pole and his friend left. Then the pawnbroker, on examining the ring, found that it was very inferior, being worth only \$15.

At another pawnshop, it is alleged, the two men tried to deposit another ring of inferior quality, but the pawnbroker was suspicious and they were arrested.

Appearance in Court.

Both men appeared before Mr. Williams in the Central Police Court this morning. They gave their names as—

Loan Tegfilievich Nowachinsky (42) of Poland, merchant, 59 Nathan Road.

Abdul Hodan (33) of Persia, musical hall artiste, 59 Nathan Road.

Both men charged with (a) larceny by trick of a gold ring from the Tung Hing Pawnshop and (b) conspiracy combination, or confederation to steal the ring.

His Worship remanded the accused for a week, bail being fixed in the sum of \$10,000 each.

GOOD FOR BRITAIN!

Indication of Her Financial Position.

LARGE REPAYMENT.

Rugby, Yesterday.

Keen satisfaction is expressed in London at the news that the Bank of England has repaid £20,000,000 of the ninety-day credit for £25,000,000 obtained from the Federal Reserve Bank on August 1, 1931. The period of credit does not expire till next week, but, it is believed, New York banking circles had expected the credit would have to be renewed and, accordingly, gratification there is considerable.

City comment is highly favourable, and it is suggested that this indication of the strength of the British financial position will have a steadying influence and promote the revival of general confidence.—British Wireless Service.

COTTON CONFERENCE TURNED DOWN.

Washington, Yesterday.

The Government of the United States has rejected the proposal of the Egyptian Government for an international cotton conference.—Reuter's American Service.

A giant cauliflower weighing 26½ lb. has been grown by Mr. Wm. Armstrong, of Cornwallis, Australia.

DAILY HERALD REPORT DENIED.

Round Table Conference.

NOT TO BE ENDED.

Rugby, Yesterday.

In the Federal Structure Committee of the Round Table Conference, Lord Peel, Chairman of the Finance Sub-Committee, in order to dispose of minor differences regarding the scope of the proposal for an expert committee on finance, suggested a modification which, after a brief discussion, was accepted. Accordingly, the general principles laid down in the Sub-Committee's report will be taken as a basis for drafting the appropriate clauses of the Bill and two committees will be set up. The first will investigate questions connected with States' contributions and similar matters, and the second will be in fact a finding committee to provide material on which final decisions as to taxation and other financial details will be taken.

Before the end of the conference the British Government will advance recommendations as to the best method of consulting parties concerned on points left over after these committees have reported.

A categorical denial is given to the Daily Herald report that the National Government if returned would end the Round Table Conference. The Secretary for India, Sir Samuel Hoare, said that the Conference would continue so long as there was work it could usefully do.—British Wireless Service.

LAVAL - HOOVER CONVERSATIONS.

Britain's Keen Interest.

VERY IMPORTANT.

Rugby, Yesterday.

In spite of pre-occupation with the Election campaign, Britain is taking the keenest interest in the Laval-Hoover conversations, the extreme importance of which are fully realised. While recognising that definite decisions are not immediately to be expected from four days' discussions, newspapers here have expressed satisfaction at assurances from both Paris and Washington that the exchanges are to be full and frank, and no issues are to be excluded from them. Consequently, it is assumed that reparations, war debts, disarmament, implications of the Paris Pact, and French sentiments regarding security will all be among the subjects reviewed.

Lord Reading's visit to Paris a fortnight ago and his message to M. Laval on the latter's departure for America, and the early return of the British Ambassador to Washington are cited as indicating the extreme interest which the British Government take in the event. Britain's readiness to co-operate in any measures which may be evolved to restore the stabilisation of Europe and disperse the prevailing depression is unquestioned.

The London Times considered it is of profound importance to the rest of the world that decisions should be taken in principle as early as possible so that some sort of calculations may be made for the future, and a measure of international confidence be restored so that the normal flow of capital may be encouraged, without which the world's economic life is perishing of inanition.—British Wireless Service.

According to the American Census Bureau the foreign-born population of the United States at April 11, 1930, totalled 13,866,407, which is almost 11 per cent. of the entire population.

Tabloid Telegrams.

The League mountain has produced a mouse. Japan is called upon to withdraw troops into the railway zone by November 16, which is the date on which the League Council meets again.

British circles believe the Council has done well to adjourn.

The League Council's resolution is analysed and compared with the Council's resolution of September 30. The analysis is interesting—read the cable.

Representatives of the Powers are to see that China makes adequate provision for the safety of Japanese nationals.

The sudden aloofness of the United States, in the matter of the dispute, is explained as being due to the fact that the problem is being approached under the provisions of the Covenant in which the United States has no right to participate.

It is said the Japanese War Office has decided to despatch more troops and munitions to Manchuria.

Reports from Chinese sources say Japanese aeroplanes bombed two railway stations.

The Egyptian suggestion for an international cotton conference has been turned down by the U.S.

M. Laval was accorded an enthusiastic reception on his arrival in New York. He has since left for Washington. He will sail for France next Monday.

Britain is taking a very keen interest in the Laval-Hoover conversations, the extreme importance of which is fully realised.

An indication of Britain's financial strength and recuperative ability is furnished in the repayment before due date of £20,000,000 out of £25,000,000 obtained on loan on August 1, 1931, from U.S. Federal Reserve Banks. The U.S. has been considerably surprised.

A "Daily Herald" report, that the National Government, if returned at the Election, would end the Indian Round Table Conference, is categorically denied.

In the course of the demonstrations Government House at Nicosia, the capital city of Cyprus, was burned down. The demonstrators got so out of hand that the police were obliged to open fire on them. Some civilians and Police were injured.

STOP PRESS

London, Yesterday.

The most decisive point in shaping the Council's action, according to a Daily Telegraph editorial, was the growing realisation that Japan had morally the strongest case once she firmly repudiated any intentions of forcibly changing the status quo and declared that her only purpose was to protect treaty rights and the safety of numerous Japanese nationals. On the other hand, China does not possess effective administrative authority. Her so-called Government has no power and has given no signs of having the will to protect Japan's legitimate interests.—Reuter.

Tokyo, Yesterday. Surprise and perplexity are expressed in official circles at the League's "unexpected action" in presenting a resolution in the terms of which, it is authoritatively declared, are "largely impossible for Japan to accept."—Reuter.

STRONG SHARE DEMAND.

Favourable Features of Opening To-day.

ENTIRE LIST ADVANCES.

The official summary issued by the Stock Exchange to-day states:—

Rates have readily responded to the strong demand prevailing and an advance along the entire list is to be noted.

Banks were done at \$1,590 and closed with buyers at \$1,585. Unions were in demand at \$450.

China Underwriters were wanted at \$4.80.

Raubs were enquired for at \$38.

Wharves were in demand at \$155.

Providents (old), after being done at \$5.60 and \$5.70, closed in demand at the latter rate, with sellers asking \$5.80.

Hotels (old) were in demand at \$15, with sellers asking \$15½. The new shares were also in demand at \$14.60.

Land were the medium of sales at \$84, and there were further buyers at the close at this rate, with sellers seeking \$85.

Humphreys (old) were wanted at \$18.60, and the new shares at \$18.

Ewos were dealt in at \$16½ and \$16.60, and at the close there were buyers bidding \$16.40.

Zoong Sings were put through at \$12½, but they closed at this rate with buyers.

Trams were in demand at \$22, but sellers were offering at \$22.30.

China Lights were in request at \$27½.

H.K. Electrics were in demand at \$78½.

Telephones (part paid) were enquired for at \$29.

Canton Ice were on offer at \$7.60.

Cements (combined), after being put through at \$20.15, closed in demand at \$19.60.

Ropes were wanted at \$17½.

Dairy Farms were done at \$90, but they closed in demand at \$90½.

Watsons were wanted at \$16.

Lane, Crawford's (old) were dealt in at \$6.

Government Loan was wanted at 5 per cent. premium.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE BURNED DOWN.

Police Open Fire on Insurgents.

ALL QUIET NOW.

Rugby, Yesterday.

According to the Colonial Office, Nicosia, the Capital of Cyprus, is at present quiet after the disturbance on Wednesday night following demonstrations which culminated in the burning down of Government House. A procession, headed by three elected members of the Council, got out of the leaders' control. After three hours' demonstration before Government House the crowd would not disperse so after repeated warnings the Police opened fire. A few civilians and some police were injured.—British Wireless Service.

A BREAKER OF WINDOWS?

Found carrying stones for an unlawful purpose in Kowloon, near Wing Lok Buildings, a Chinese was arrested and charged at the Kowloon Police Court this morning.

It is alleged that the man intended breaking windows, as occurrences of that nature have taken place in that vicinity. Mr. Fraser commented that it was very curious, and sent the man to jail for one month, for having possession of offensive weapons. He was also fined \$50 or a month's imprisonment for loitering.

BOY SCOUTS IN COLONY.

2nd Kowloon Troop Inaugurated.

PADRE'S WORK LAUDED.

An impressive ceremony took place in St. Andrew's Church Hall yesterday evening, when in the presence of a gathering of Scouters and Boy Scouts, numbering nearly 60, the Rev. E. A. Armstrong (District Commissioner for Kowloon and the New Territories Boy Scouts) inaugurated the new Ling loon (Shun Man College), 7th Kowloon Group of Boy Scouts. The new Scoutmaster and six of the boys were duly invested into the brotherhood by the Commissioner. Troops that attended were 1st Kowloon (St. Andrew), 4th Kowloon (Shun Mon College), 7th Kowloon, and the 9th Kowloon Scottish. Prior to the investiture Scout games were indulged in. St. Andrew's acted as hosts. Tea and cakes were served, after which the gathering got into horse-shoe formation for the investiture.

Standing between the St. Andrew's troop Colour Party, the Commissioner said that he was glad that another troop had started in Kowloon before he left the Colony. During his two years' stay here, two troops had been brought into existence, the 9th Kowloon and the newly formed Ling Tung College group. In wishing the new troop good luck and good hunting, the Commissioner thanked all Scouters and Scouts for the untiring support that they had given him in the interests of Scouting.

Mr. R. Dormer (Scoutmaster of St. Andrew's troop) said that he felt sure that the Rev. E. A. Armstrong had brought Scouting in Kowloon to a standard it had never retained before. He had laid a strong foundation in Kowloon, and he (the speaker) hoped that the troops would build on it more and more. He thanked the Commissioner for all that he had done, and wishing him a happy, interesting and joyous voyage home, called on the Scouts to give three hearty cheers, and a "tiger." This was responded to wholeheartedly.

After the singing of "Auld Lang Syne," the Commissioner gave the order "Dismiss" and the gathering dispersed.

FINE TO CLOUDY.

The Royal Observatory's report issued to-day says:—The position of the typhoon is uncertain. The anticyclone is central over Korea. Forecast:—N.E. winds, moderate; fine to cloudy.

Typhoon Warning.

We are indebted to the American Consulate General for the following telegram received from the Manila Observatory:—

Manila, October 23, 10.30 a.m.—Typhoon in about 137 deg. Long. E., 14 deg. Lat. N., moving N.W.

Rainfall.

Rainfall for 24 hours ended at 10 a.m. to-day:—Total since January 1—74.65 inches against an average of 79.87 inches—deficit 5.02 inches.

Temperature.

The temperature at certain specified centres this morning at 6 o'clock was:—

Hong Kong	70
Pratas Island	76
Foochow	68
Amoy	70
Chefoo	50
Shanghai	64
Manila	76

MOTORIST FINED.

Mr. J. W. Wells appeared before Mr. W. S. Schofield in the Central Magistracy this morning summoned on three counts, namely—(a) driving a car in Charter Road without proper lights, (b) driving the car in a reckless or negligent manner dangerous to the public, and (c) failing to stop when called upon to do so by a Police officer in uniform.

Pleading guilty Mr. Wells said that he thought his lights were fully on, but the glare of the street lamps made it hard to distinguish. He knew many Police officials, and so passed the officer because he thought the latter's signal was one of recognition.

PRISON GUARD HEAVILY FINED.

A charge of bringing two packets of tobacco into Victoria Jail, was brought against Mewa Singh, a prison guard, before Mr. E. H. Williams this morning. Defendant pleaded guilty.

Chief Warder MacLeod said he had been instructed by the Superintendent to ask for a heavy penalty, because the defendant had committed a very serious breach of the Prison Regulations. Defendant had been in the service for two and a half years and his record was good.

A fine of \$200 or three months' jail was imposed.

The following fines were imposed:—(a) \$5, (b) \$30, (c) \$5, making a total of \$40.

BUDGET DEBATE

(Continued from Page 2.)

ing men after they have been engaged, in order to qualify them for their work, seems to us to be one that is open to condemnation, in that it is not only uneconomical but does no conduce to efficiency. In future we trust that only properly qualified men will be engaged.

Complaints have frequently been heard that architects have experienced much difficulty and inconvenience in preparing plans for new buildings because the requirements of the Fire Brigade governing such are not definitely defined. The obvious remedy is to have a set of Fire Regulations formulated so that all may know what the requirements of the Department are. In this connection we would urge that the work of re-casting and consolidating the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, which we understand is in progress, may be expedited. At present the hundreds of amendments, large and small, that have been introduced since the Ordinance first came into being, are a source of some bewilderment to those who have occasions to refer to the law on the subject. Much time would be saved to both the Government and the Public if the Ordinance were consolidated in a comprehensive and clear manner.

Health Measures.

The unofficials have noted with considerable satisfaction that provision has been made for anti-malarial and anti-venereal diseases measures, as well as for infant welfare work. It is the earnest hope of the unofficials that before long steps will be taken to give greater facilities for the treatment of tuberculosis cases, and, as soon as money is available, to build a sanatorium for the purpose.

While I am still dealing with the Medical Estimates, I desire on behalf of the unofficials members to express sincere thanks to the St. John Ambulance Association for having handed over on loan to the Government three motor-ambulances, and for the valuable services it has rendered to the Colony by giving free vaccination to thousands of people every year, the number vaccinated in 1930 being over half a million.

The thanks of the Colony are also due to those public-spirited gentlemen who founded the New Territories Medical Benevolent Society, particularly to those medical practitioners who give their services free to the suffering poor in the New Territories, cheerfully and unremotely.

Railway Matters.

In the Estimates of the Kowloon-Canton Railway, under "Special Expenditure," provision has been made for the new body-work of four coaches. We do not know whether this body-work is to be of steel or wood. If work has not yet been commenced, we suggest that the coaches might be built of steel, as we have been given to understand that recent experience has shown that steel is not only safer than wood in case of accident, but is also more economical in upkeep.

We are glad to see that a beginning is at long last to be made next year in the construction of the 100-foot road between Causeway Bay and the Ming Yuen Garden. This road is an urgent necessity for the development of the district east of Whitfield Police Station, and our one regret is that larger provision has not been made in the

Estimates for 1932. We hope that if in the course of the year the finances of the Colony should improve, a larger sum than the \$50,000 now inserted in the Estimates, may be spent on this road, so as to accelerate its completion as much as possible.

The announcement that a new gaol is to be built has been satisfaction to the Public. We commend to the consideration of the Government the proposition of removing the Police Training School at Mongkok to the neighbourhood of the new Gaol. The proximity of the Training School to the Gaol would help to keep down the staff of Warders; and the valuable property now occupied by the School, which has recently been acquired at a considerable sum of money, can be resold, probably at a profit.

It may not be out of place here to tender to Your Excellency the advice, which I know has the support of the Public, that the Superintendent of Prisons should reside at or close to the Gaol for reasons obvious to all.

Water Schemes.

We were gratified to learn that on the construction of the Service Reservoir in the Botanical Gardens next year, and the laying of a 24-inch pipe-line to connect the reservoir to the cross-harbour pipe-line, the first section of the Shing Mun Scheme will be completed. Our gratification has been enhanced by the knowledge that works on the new dam for the Aberdeen Reservoir, the upper and lower Pumping Stations, the reconstruction of Elliot Filter-Beds, and the East Catch-Water First Section have all been satisfactorily executed. These, and the other waterworks that will be finished next year will, we hope, prevent a recurrence of serious water famines such as the one we experienced in 1929. It is sincerely hoped that the approval of the Secretary of State as regards the second section of the Shing Mun Scheme will soon be obtained, and that work on it will be proceeded with as early as possible.

While on the subject of Public Works Extraordinary the unofficials members desire to mention, incidentally, that comments and criticisms have been expressed on the terms and conditions attached to the notification calling for the Passenger and Vehicles Ferry. As this matter has no direct bearing on the Estimates, we do not propose to enter into details, but in the interests of the Colony we trust that the Government will give due weight to any representations it may receive on the subject.

Loan Conversion?

We commend to the consideration of the Government, if the proceeding has not already suggested itself, the desirability of converting at an early date the six per cent. Public Works (1927) Loan to one bearing on lower rate of interest, as soon as opportunity arises.

A few words may be said concerning Military Contribution which shows an estimated increase of \$1,582,277. This increase is of course the result of the increase in revenue. While we do not desire to press for a more equitable method of calculating Military Contribution in view of the financial difficulties confronting the Home Government, we should like to be informed whether Your Excellency has obtained the sanction of the Secretary of State to the publication of the correspondence between himself and Sir Cecil Clementi on the subject, as mentioned by Your Excellency during the Budget debate last year.

In conclusion, we respectfully congratulate Your Excellency on your success in preserving cordial relations with our near neighbours in Kwangtung and Kwangsi under extremely difficult conditions — an achievement which has called forth sagacity and understanding, tact and statesmanship. We also assure Your Excellency of our loyal and wholehearted support of any measures which you may deem it necessary to adopt for maintaining peace and order in these times of unrest and anxiety.

Hon. Dr. Kotewall.

The Hon. Dr. R. H. Kotewall said:—

My senior Chinese colleague, having undertaken the office of spokesman for the Unofficial members, has delegated to me the task of presenting the Chinese views on the draft Estimates. That task has been considerably lightened by the inclusion in the Hon. Sir Shou-son Chow's speech of all the matters of major importance to the Chinese community, and I need only say that I am in entire agreement with the views he has expressed thereon. There are, however, a few questions affecting the Chinese in particular, concerning which I am to offer some remarks.

Betting Tax.

When the draft Estimates for 1931 were before this Council, I put forward, on behalf of the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce, a proposal to tax race sweep-tickets, giving the reason that such a tax, while entailing no hardship on anyone, would yield a substantial revenue and would be easy to collect. It is with much satisfaction, therefore, that the Chinese have learned of the Government's intention to introduce before the end of the present year a Betting Tax estimated to bring in a sum of \$250,000 in 1932.

Local Men.

The Hon. Sir Shou-son Chow, on behalf of the unofficials members, has expressed the opinion that a greater reduction could be made in the number of stenographers on the Senior Clerical and Accounting Staff by the substitution of local men for sterling-paid employees. I trust that I may be permitted to add a few words in support of this plea. It seems to me that there must be, either in the Services or outside it, plenty of local men and

young women — Chinese, Portuguese and Indians — whose training and trustworthiness qualify them to fill at least some of these posts. I recognise the necessity for employing adequately-paid stenographers of undoubted discretion where the nature of the work is highly confidential, but I hold the view that if a local man has proven himself to have the necessary training and discretion, he should not be barred from one of these posts, or from other posts on the Senior Clerical and Accounting Staff. By throwing these positions open to local men, the Government not only would do justice to all alike, but would be able to effect considerable savings in exchange compensation, long leave pay, and free passages.

Capitation Grants.
I welcome the Government's decision to increase the Capitation Grants by \$45,000 as being a step in the right direction. Though the increase is comparatively small, and will not benefit certain grant-in-aid schools to any appreciable extent for reasons I need not mention here, it connotes recognition by the Government of the usefulness of these schools in the educational scheme of the Colony. There is no doubt that but for the existence of the grant-in-aid schools, which relieve the Government of its responsibility to educate several thousand students every year, the cost of education in the Colony would have been considerably greater than the amount of grants now paid. I was glad to hear from the Hon. Colonial Secretary that should the financial position of the Colony be improved twelve months hence, the question of a further increase in the grants would be considered. Elementary Vernacular Education.

Last year I drew attention to, and strongly deprecated, the reduction of the vote "Subsidies to Elementary Vernacular Schools in Hong Kong" from \$95,000 to \$80,000. It is therefore a pleasure to find the vote not only restored to its former figure, but actually increased by \$5,000. As a believer in universal education, I should like to see this vote doubled, so that a free elementary education could be given to a larger number of poor children than the present vote permits. Whether a higher education is a luxury or a necessity is a question that might well be left to those who are in a better position to propound an opinion thereon, but I think few will dispute my view that all children, no matter of what station of life, should have the chance of acquiring an elementary education in their own language.

Junior Technical School.
The institution of a Junior Technical School is another important improvement in our educational system, on which the Government is to be congratulated. The Hon. Colonial Secretary has said that the school was not expected to pay for itself by fees received, as it was intended for sons of comparatively poor parents. No one could reasonably expect that the fees would cover expenditure, and my Chinese colleague

(Continued on Page 5.)

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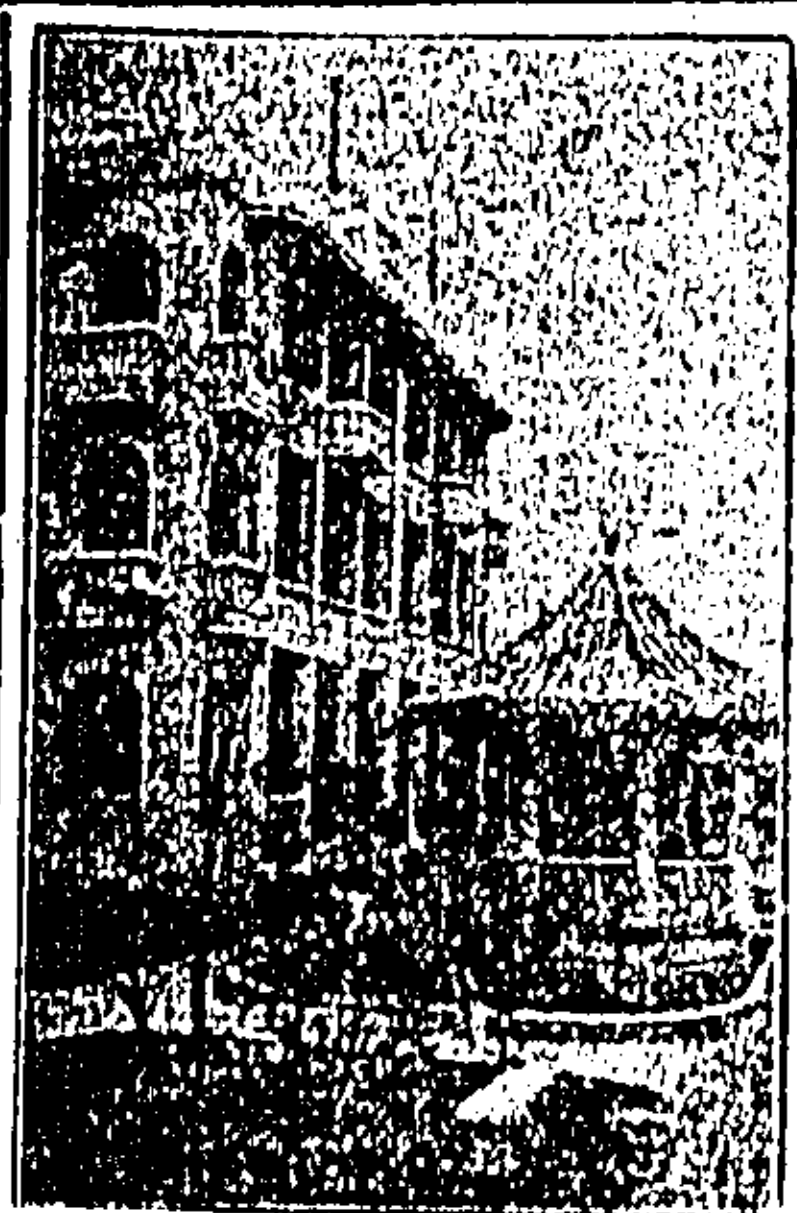
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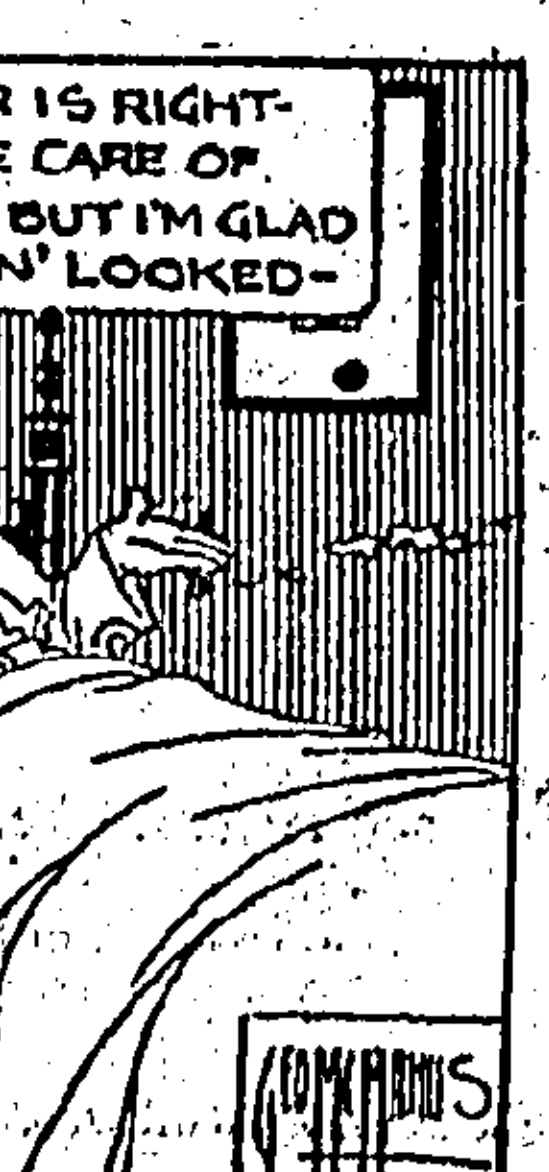
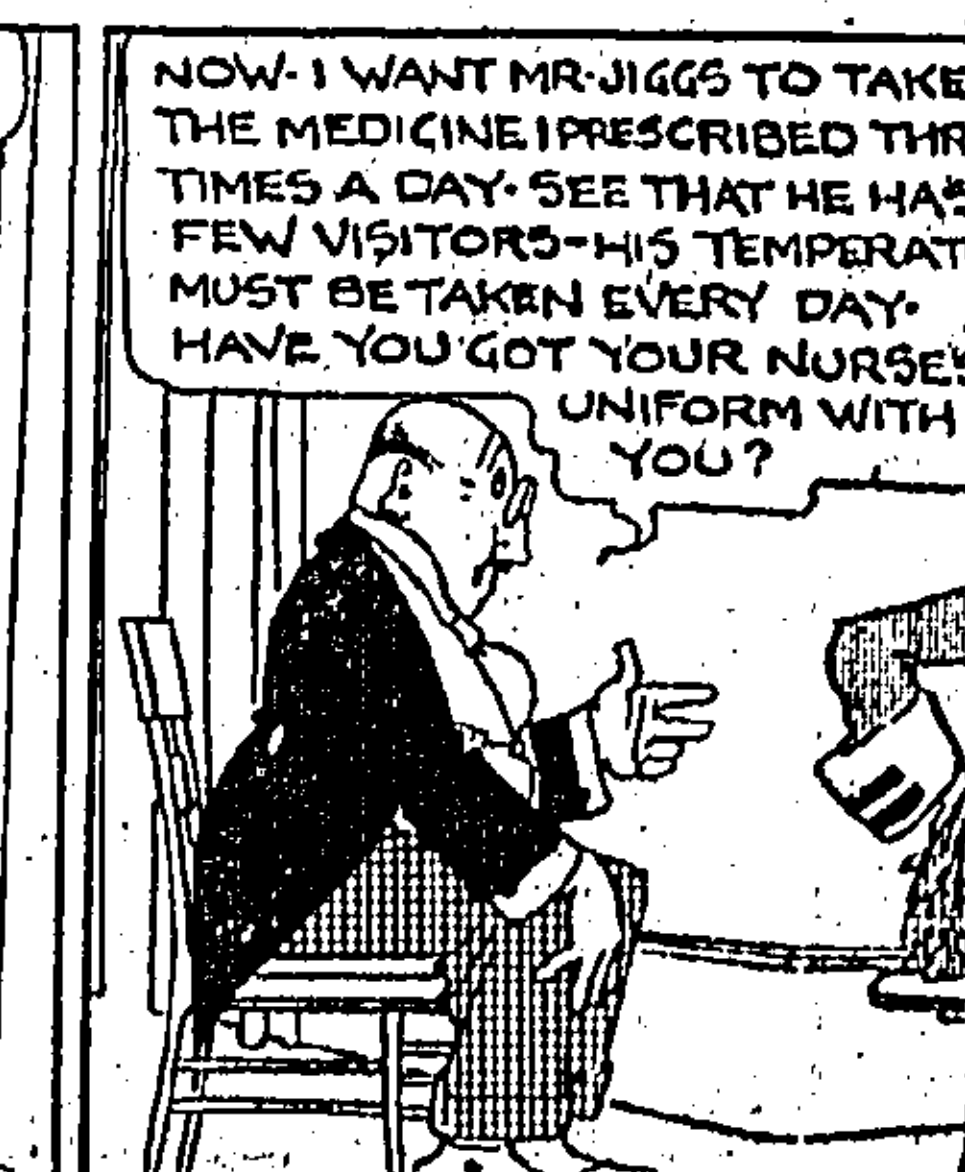
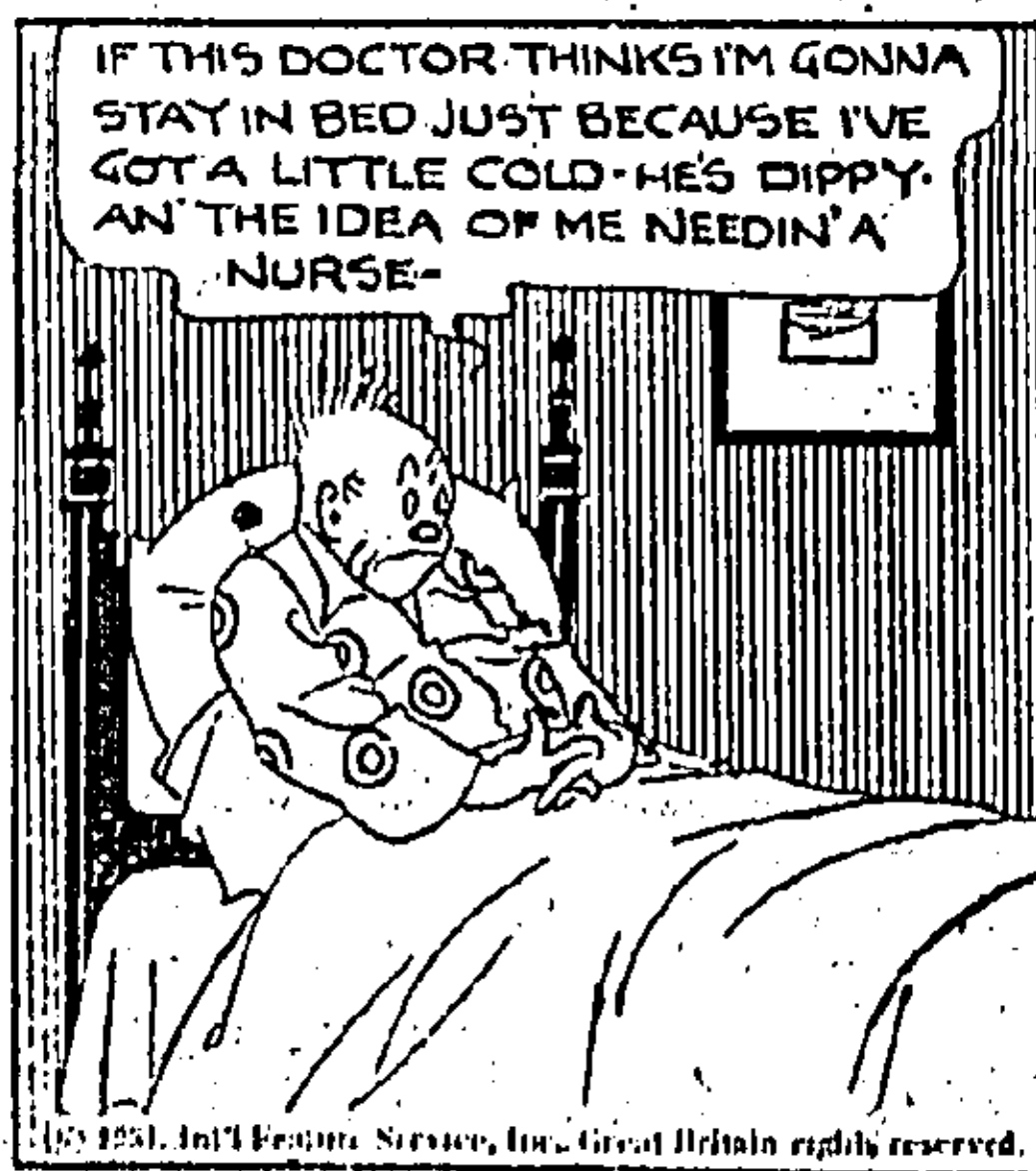
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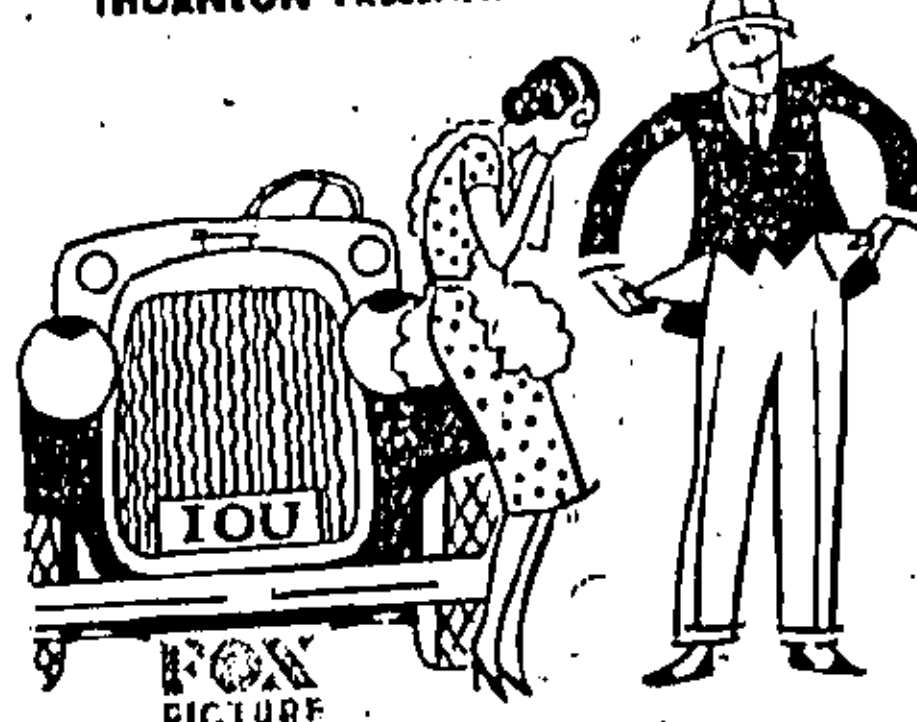
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CURRENT SPORTING GOSSIP

KOWLOON HOCKEY.

Y.M.C.A. Draw with Medway.

At King's Park yesterday afternoon the Y.M.C.A. Hockey XI. were opposed to H.M.S. Medway when an interesting game resulted in both sides scoring twice.

The Y.M.C.A. scored first through Bates who seized an opportunity presented by a pass from T. J. Price. Toward the end of the first half the Medway equalised.

On resuming the Medway went ahead with a good score to obtain the lead, but the Y.M.C.A. as a result of continued pressure in the later stages, scored the equaliser when T. J. Price netted four minutes before the final whistle.

The Y.M.C.A. played ten men throughout, and fully deserved the draw, which was a fair indication of the game.

Result: Y.M.C.A. 2; H.M.S. Medway 2.

Incognitos Defeated by Odd Goal.

Playing a friendly game of hockey on the Diocesan Girls' School Ground yesterday afternoon, St. Andrew's Club defeated the Incognitos XI by the odd goal in three, in a fast game.

This was the initial appearance of the Incognitos as a team, and they gave a very creditable performance. It is difficult to form an opinion at this early stage of their team work and play, as the ground yesterday was decidedly on the bumpy side, thus making play rather erratic and wild. But with a little more practice the Incognitos (who have entered the newly-formed hockey Shield Tournament) should go far.

At half-time, there was no scoring, but no sooner had the teams changed over than E. F. Fincher opened for St. Andrew's with a nice shot from the left. The opposition drew level through J. A. de V. Soares who scored a good goal. Play became very keen, and was evenly contested. Later St. Andrew's successfully penetrated a strong defence and registered the winning goal through E. F. Fincher. The final whistle sounded with the Incognitos pressing hard.

Result:—

St. Andrew's Club 2

Incognitos 1

Y.M.C.A. Team for To-day.

The following will represent the Y.M.C.A. 2nd eleven against the Royal Corps of Signals, at the U.S.R.C. ground at 5.15 p.m. to-day:—

Moon; Tate, Tippet; Purvis, Bates, F. S. W. Smith; Marshall, Dormer, W. J. Brown, F. D. Angus, and Michel.

LAWN BOWLS.

Lapsley Eliminated by Omar.

U. M. Omar (Craigengower C.C.) had an easy passage into the semi-final of the lawn bowls Open Singles Championship when he met R. Lapsley (Kowloon Dock) on the Kowloon C.C. ground yesterday. He finished the game in 15 hands, winning by 21 shots to 7.

BILLIARDS.

St. Patrick's Club Defeat Mercantile Bank.

St. Patrick's Catholic Club were at home to the Mercantile Bank at billiards, all games were fairly evenly contested, but St. Patrick's proved themselves the victors by 893 points to 803.

Our Sports Diary.

LOCAL.

HOCKEY—To-day—Hong Kong Hockey Club "A" v. K.B.S.F.P.A. at 5.15 p.m.
CRICKET—To-morrow—Third Interport Cricket Trial; Navy v. Diocesan B.S.; Indian R.C. v. University II.
RACING—To-morrow—Tenth Extra Race Meeting.

HOME FOOTBALL.

To-morrow's League Fixtures.

ENGLISH LEAGUE.

First Division.

Aston Villa	v.	Everton
Bolton W.	v.	West Brom.
Chelsea	v.	Blackburn R.
Grimsby T.	v.	Sheffield U.
Huddersfield	v.	Sunderland
Leicester C.	v.	Arsenal
Liverpool	v.	Blackpool
Middlesbrough	v.	Birmingham
Newcastle	v.	Manchester C.
Wednesday	v.	Derby County
West Ham	v.	Portsmouth

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Everton	11	8	0	3	33	19	16
West Brom.	12	7	2	3	25	11	16
Huddersfield	11	6	3	2	19	13	15
Arsenal	11	6	4	2	27	12	13
Aston Villa	9	6	1	2	33	28	13
Wednesday	11	6	1	4	25	22	13
Middlesbrough	11	6	1	4	33	28	13
Liverpool	11	5	2	4	23	18	12
Leicester	11	5	2	4	22	19	12
Sheffield U.	11	5	2	4	19	16	12
Sunderland	12	3	6	4	16	15	11
Newcastle	9	5	0	4	19	13	10
Bolton	11	4	2	5	20	22	10
Manchester C.	12	4	1	7	17	26	9
Derby	11	4	1	6	14	20	9
Blackpool	11	3	2	6	14	28	8
Chelsea	11	3	1	7	10	23	7
Blackburn	11	2	3	6	17	27	7
Grimsby	11	3	1	7	10	28	7
Portsmouth	11	2	2	7	9	22	6

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Bradford	11	8	1	2	27	13	17
Burnley	11	7	1	3	22	10	15
Leeds U.	11	6	3	2	25	10	15
Plymouth	11	6	2	3	23	14	14
Wolves	11	6	1	3	25	12	13
Millwall	11	5	2	4	20	12	12
Notts Forest	11	5	2	4	20	12	12
Notts Cnty.	11	5	1	5	23	11	11
Southampton	11	5	1	5	19	20	11
Oldham	11	4	3	4	18	17	11
Port Vale	11	4	3	4	10	21	11
Wort	11	4	2	4	13	15	10
Barnley	11	5	0	6	21	18	10
Swansea	11	3	3	5	17	26	9
Tottenham	11	3	3	5	23	25	9
Preston N.E.	11	3	3	5	16	19	9
Manchester U.	11	3	3	5	14	19	9
Chesterfield	11	3	2	6	16	24	8
Barnsley	11	3	2	6	15	24	8
Bradford C.	11	2	1	8	13	25	5
Bristol C.	11	2	1	8	13	24	4
Charlton	11	1	2	7	13	24	4

Second Division.

Bradford	v.	Barnsley
Burnley	v.	Bury
Charlton	v.	Leeds U.
Chesterfield	v.	Oldham A.
Manchester U.	v.	Notts County
Notts Forest	v.	Bristol C.
Preston N.E.	v.	Port Vale
Southampton	v.	Millwall
Stoke C.	v.	Bradford C.
Tottenham	v.	Plymouth
Wolves	v.	Swansea

Third Division (South).

Bournemouth	v.	Gillingham
Brighton	v.	Reading
Bristol R.	v.	Exeter C.
Clapton O.	v.	Thames
Crystal Pal.	v.	Luton
Manfield T.	v.	Northampton
Norwich C.	v.	Southend
Queen's P.R.	v.	Coventry
Swindon	v.	Fulham
Torquay	v.	Brentford
Watford	v.	Cardiff C.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Southend	11	7	4	0	23	9	18
Brentford	11	8	1	2	23	10	17
Fulham	11	7	1	3	27	20	15
Watford	11	6	2	3	25	23	14
Bournemouth	11	6	2	3	23	16	14
Crystal Pal.	11	5	4	2	23	14	13
Brighton	11	5	4	2	23	14	13
Coventry	11	6	1	4	23	14	13
Norwich	11	5	3	3	16	11	13
Cardiff	11	5	2	4	22	16	12
Reading	11	4	4	3	16	18	12
Exeter	11	5	2	4	25	25	12
Luton	11	5	2	4	12	12	9
Thames	11	3	3	5	19	35	9
Torquay	11	3	3	5	19	35	9
Manfield	11	2	4	5	16	26	8
Northampton	12	3	2	7	10	17	8
Clapton O.	11	3	1	7	17	25	7
Bristol R.	11	2	3	6	17	21	7
Queen's P.R.	11	1	5	5	15	24	6
Swindon	11	3	0	8	17	24	6
Gillingham	11	1	2	8	5	23	4

Third Division (North).

Accrington	v.	Hartlepool
Carlisle	v.	Darlington
Crawley	v.	Halifax
Doncaster	v.	Gateshead
Rochdale	v.	Walsall
Sheff. Wed.	v.	Lincoln C.
Southport	v.	New Brighton
Stockport	v.	Chester
Tranmere	v.	Hull C.
Wrexham	v.	Wigan Boro
York C.	v.	Barrow

(Continued on Next Column.)

SOUTH AFRICAN CRICKETERS.

Start of the Australian Tour.

MATCH IN THE WEST.

Perth, Yesterday.

The South African cricketers started their Australian tour with a three-day's against Western Australia.

South Africa had scored 273 for six wickets at the close of play. Christy made 102—Reuter.

INTERPORT TRIAL.

The following teams have been selected for the Interport trial game at the H.K.C.C. ground tomorrow:—

H. R. B. Hancock, Capt. Mirehouse, A. C. I. Bowker, Sig. Williams, G. R. Sayer, R. H. Griffiths, E. C. Fincher, Lt. Hamilton, Pte. Robson, O. G. Simpson, E. Zimmern, and O. B. Younger.

T. E. Pearce, A. Reid, F. D. Pereira, A. C. Beck, Lt. Ride, D. J. N. Anderson, A. H. Musson, F. Goodwin, J. E. Richardson, E. J. R. Mitchell, H. Owen Hughes, and E. R. Duckitt.

Shanghai's Team.
The latest news from the North regarding the team to visit here in November is as follows:—

Definitely selected and accepted the invitation:—D. W. Leach, A. J. Barson, T. W. R. Wilson, R. S. Elliott, H. A. Coward, F. V. Simpson, and J. A. Isaacs.

Selected, but still some doubt as to whether they can get away:—P. Madar and S. R. Kermani.

Possibles:—F. Marshall, R. Townsend, H. J. M. Cook, D. B. W. Murray, and C. J. Merritt.

LOCAL FOOTBALL.

Service Easily Beat Malaya Team.

There was a good attendance at the Garrison ground yesterday to witness the "soccer" match between the Malaya touring team and a team selected from the Services.

The Services won by 7 goals to 2.

The Services played without the Argylles.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Lincoln	11	9	0	2	27	7	18
Southport	12	7	2	3	19	14	16
Wrexham	12	6	4	2	23	15	16
Gateshead	11	7	1	3	27	12	15
Darlington	11	6	2	3	22	14	14
York	11	6	2	3	23	20	14
Chester	12	6	2	4	23	20	14
Tranmere	11	6	0	5	18	18	12
Barrow	11	5	2	4	19	16	12
Grove	11	5	2	4	19	16	12
Hartlepool	12	4	4	4	19	26	12
Accrington	11	5	1	5	23	29	11
Halifax	11	5	1	5	13	15	11
Hull	11	5	0	6	16	13	10
Stockport	11	4	2	5	13	10	10
Doncaster	11	4	1	6	16	18	9
Walsall	11	4	1	6	16	18	9
Rochdale	11	3	2	6	18	23	8
Wigan	11	3	1	7	12	25	7
Carlisle	11	2	3	6	20	28	7
N. Brighton	11	0	1	10	4	25	1

SCOTTISH LEAGUE.

First Division.

Airdrieonians	v.	St. Mirren
Celtic	v.	Ayr U.
Cowdenbeath	v.	Motherwell
Dundee U.	v.	Leith
Hamilton	v.	Rangers
Hearts	v.	Dundee
Kilmarnock	v.	Falkirk
Morton	v.	Clyde
Partick	v.	Third Lanark
Queen's Park	v.	Aberdeen

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	Goal
Motherwell	15	11	3	1	49	15
Rangers	13	9	2	2	34	12
Celtic	14	7	6	1	39	18
Kilmarnock	15	8	4	3	28	19
Aberdeen	15	8	3	4	28	21
Third Lanark	14	8	1	5	38	35
St. Mirren	15	8	1	6	25	22
Dundee	15	5	5	5	29	22
Clyde	14	5	4	5	21	22
Hearts	15	6	2	7	18	23
Cowdenbeath	15	5	4	6	20	23
Queen's Park	14	5	6	3	24	24
Partick	14	5	5	4	24	24
Airdrieonians	14	5	1	8	32	27
Hamilton	15	4	3	8	28	26
Dundee U.	14	4	3	8	10	26
Morton	14	3	4	7	24	26
Ayr	15	3	4	8	26	26
Falkirk	15	3	4	8	24	24
Leith	14	3	1	10	14	24

BUDGET DEBATE

(Continued from Page 3.)

leagues and I gladly approve of the provision made in the Estimates for this school which, we think, will be of real benefit to the community.

The Colony's Educational System.

Your Excellency has recently appointed a committee to enquire into the question of Chinese education at the University of Hong Kong. It appears to me that the time has come when our educational system as a whole should be thoroughly overhauled, and that it may be profitable to appoint a committee for the purpose. Some think that we are spending far too much on education; others feel that we do not spend enough; while yet others consider that the system in vogue is capable of improvement. That being the case, a committee of enquiry, composed of men with practical experience of education and with knowledge of local conditions, should be of great assistance to the Government in determining its educational policy.

Water Supply.

As the question of water supply is of vital importance to the Chinese, I make no apologies for adding a few remarks to those of the honourable senior unofficial member. Three years ago, when the supply to the rider-main districts had to be severely restricted from time to time, entailing acute hardship on the people, I feel it my duty to speak on the Government's lack of foresight in providing an adequate supply to the people. To-day, it is my agreeable duty to express appreciation of the expeditious and satisfactory manner in which various waterworks have been or will soon be completed. The Chinese would be grateful if Your Excellency could assure them that with the completion of these works, sporadic restrictions such as we have experienced in the past need not be feared in the future.

Agriculture in New Territories.

The Hon. Dr. S. W. Ts'o will speak on the necessity for more encouragement and support being given by the Government to the growing of vegetables in the New Territories, so that the Colony may be less dependent on outside supplies. With his view and suggestion Sir Shou-son Chow and I are in agreement.

Taxation.

Least an omission on my part to mention the new taxes recently brought into force give the impression that the Chinese have no strong feeling on the subject. I should like to say that the Chinese view these wholesale impositions with considerable concern and apprehension. The Government has made a thorough revision of all the licences and

fees, and has introduced many new forms of taxation, which affect all classes of the community directly and indirectly, and to a more or less extent. The taxable capacity of the people, as has been pointed out by the honourable senior unofficial member, has now reached a point where any additional imposts will have an adverse effect on the economic life of the community. It is earnestly to be hoped, now that the Government has managed to balance a very difficult Budget, and the rate of exchange is actually higher than the rate on which the draft Estimates are based, the Government will give the people some respite by ceasing its quest for additional revenue.

Technical Aspect of the Estimates.

Having expressed the collective views of the Chinese unofficial members, may I, with great deference, offer some personal opinions and suggestions in regard to the technical aspect of the Estimates? I am emboldened to undertake this self-imposed task by the readiness with which the Government has in the past adopted similar suggestions from the unofficial members, and also by the experience which I gained from the humble part I took in the preparation of the Colony's annual Estimates when I had the honour of serving in the Colonial Secretary's Office.

If I may be permitted to say so, the form of the draft Estimates now before us is undoubtedly better than that of any Estimates have been presented to this Council during the past several years. The two statements showing the actual Revenue and the actual Expenditure for the past ten years, now embodied in the Estimates for the first time, are particularly helpful. But I venture to think that the usefulness of the second statement would have been greatly enhanced if Personal Emoluments, Other Charges, and Special Expenditure of each department were shown separately, thereby enabling the public to see the variations in each of those three main items for a period of ten years. The statement could be further improved, in my opinion, by having all the salaries chargeable to any one department allocated to that department, under the three "omnibus" heads—Cadet Service, Senior Clerical and Accounting Staff, and Junior Clerical Staff. To do this for the last ten years might entail too much clerical work, but perhaps a beginning in this direction might be made with 1931, the year in which the totals of the three main items mentioned were for the first time given in the estimates of each department

under the caption "Summary." From this Summary the figures for the statement can be compiled without difficulty.

Auditor Not Enamoured.

Speaking of the "omnibus" heads, I see from his report on the audit of the accounts of Hong Kong for the year 1930, that the Government Auditor is not altogether enamoured of the method of grouping salaries in the manner at present employed. It may be interesting to point out that in 1925 the late Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak said that the unofficial members were not fully satisfied that it was not preferable to debit salaries of the clerical service to the various departments concerned, so that the unofficial members could arrive at a definite knowledge of the cost of running each department. But the Government did not accept this view. In 1929 the Hon. Sir Shou-son Chow, on behalf of the unofficial members, also drew attention to this method, and suggested that the public interest would be better served by reverting to the old system of embodying in the estimates of each department all salaries chargeable to that department, even if a little more time and labour were entailed thereby. To this suggestion the Government made a partial concession by introducing the Summary I have mentioned. This Summary is a distinct improvement on the form of the previous Estimates, though on the whole I prefer to see the estimates of expenditure of each department contain all the detailed disbursements it has to make. At any rate, the Auditor seems to hold this view; but if the Government is not prepared to go to the length advocated by me, may I suggest that in future Estimates, under the head "Summary," Special Expenditure should be shown after Personal Emoluments and Other Charges have been totalled. Special Expenditure is non-recurring expenditure, and may show a large amount in one year and nothing at all in another; to group it with the other two recurring items may cause a wrong conception of the real position of the estimated recurrent expenditure of a department for the following year as compared with that of the current year. For example, take the Summary attached to the Imports and Exports Office on page 27. From this you will see that the Special

Expenditure for 1931 is \$20,800 and for 1932 \$6,000; while the total of the three main items Personal Emoluments, Other Charges, and Special Expenditure for 1931, was \$948,610, and the total for 1932 was \$942,341—an apparent decrease of \$6,269—when in reality the estimates for 1932, if computed without the Special Expenditure, should reveal an increase of \$8,531. With the Special Expenditure shown separately in the Summary, this confusion would be obviated.

Another innovation which I would suggest is the inclusion in future Estimates of a new statement showing the percentage to each head of expenditure to the total estimated Expenditure, excluding Public Works—Extraordinary; and also the percentage of each head of expenditure to the total estimated Revenue, excluding Land Sales.

I apologise for the seeming presumption with which I have proffered these suggestions. I have done so in the belief that I might be helpful to the Government in its efforts to produce the Estimates in a form that would facilitate reference, and would afford the community information for which it has looked in vain in the past.

Conclusion.

As a representative of the Chinese residents, may I associate them with the pledge of co-operation and support offered to Your Excellency by the unofficial members through their leader? I should also like, on their behalf, to tender to Your Excellency grateful thanks for your kind expression of sympathy with their countrymen in the great misfortune that has befallen them through the series of unprecedentedly disastrous floods in the Yangtze regions, and also for the Government's generous contribution in aid of the victims of the floods in Kwangtung. This friendly assistance, rendered spontaneously and promptly, exemplifies the truth of the lines: "In faith and hope the world will disagree—But all mankind's concern is charity."

Hon. Mr. C. G. Mackie.

The Hon. Mr. C. Gordon Mackie said in part:—
Reference is made by the Colonial Secretary in his speech to the work being done by the Port Development sub-department,

which he states is at present mainly occupied with the Vehicular Ferry scheme. Whilst admitting that that work is of great importance to the Colony, I consider that a matter which requires much more urgent attention is the long over-due work of dredging which can be taken in hand without any further delay. I understand that one officer has been detailed for this special service. There has been no extensive dredging done since 1928 and had it not been for the reclamation at Kai Tack that work might possibly not have been carried out even now.

A New Wharf.

To accommodate the larger steamers trading to this port, the Hong Kong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Ltd., have extended their existing wharves, and are now building a still longer wharf. This new wharf, which is being erected at a cost of over a million dollars, will be completed by the end of this year, but owing to the shallow approaches it will not be available for the big modern liners until a channel is dredged.

I maintain this is essentially a work which should be carried out by and at the expense of the Government, whose duty it is to provide access to berths for all steamers trading to this port. Additional taxes have recently been levied on shipping and the rates and taxes payable by the Wharf Company are assessed on profits as shown in the Company's balance sheet; that is to say they are collected on revenue from wharves in addition to pier rents.

Sterling Salaries.

Turning to the question of sterling salaries, that is a subject which—if judged by what one reads and hears—is causing more adverse comment and arousing stronger public feeling than any other matter raised in connection with the estimates for 1932.

The Colonial Secretary in his able general survey in introducing the Budget unfortunately when dealing with salaries drew a picture describing the sacrifices the sterling paid Civil Servants had been called upon to bear in the burden of balancing the Budget as compared with the employees of the business concerns of the Colony.

His statements were not at all convincing and were, in fact, very misleading, as, I may state, almost without exception, the entire business and professional community has been very severely hit by bad

trade and the drop in exchange. Government Servants at Home, in Ceylon, the Straits and other places have all had their salaries cut and it is only fitting that the Civil Servants of this Colony should shoulder their fair share of the burden occasioned by the present world-wide depression instead of increasing the levy on the already sorely-hit taxpayer, and incidentally finding themselves better off than they have ever been at any time during their service.

I shall therefore in due course, move the following amendment to Section Two of the proposed Bill:—"That a sum not exceeding \$25,703,257 in place of the sum of \$26,641,787 shall be and the same is hereby charged upon the revenue and other funds of the Colony for the service of the year 1932."

Hon. Mr. J. P. Braga.

The Hon. Mr. J. P. Braga said:—The role I propose to assume in connection with the Budget debate is that of special pleader on behalf of Kowloon. Before, however, presenting to Your Excellency and this Honourable Council a case for the needs and claims which the Kowloon Residents' Association desire me to submit for modest and moderate but, nevertheless, urgent public improvements for the peninsula, great disappointment must be expressed at the non-fulfilment of the Government's undertaking to economise in the direction of the staffing of the public service by a larger number of dollar for sterling-paid servants of the Government.

I labour under some disadvantage in the formulation of my criticisms, since in the absence of the Report of the Retrenchment Committee, which has been withheld from the Unofficial Members of the Legislative Council, except those who are also members of the Executive Council, it is impossible to determine the extent to which the Retrenchment Committee had acquiesced in the Government's policy of maintaining an expensive personnel on a sterling basis. Nor is it possible to ascertain how far Your Excellency's instructions to several departments (Hansard 1930, p. 227) regarding local recruiting have been carried out.

Until the Government gives an earnest of its determination to apply the axe in respect of a large branch of the gold section of its administration, it is difficult to resist the conclusion that the community's demand for greater economy in the Colony's administrative expenditure has been ignored.

Value of Specialists.
I must not be misinterpreted as denying to those officers of the

Government who by reason of their professional qualifications, high attainments and technical skill should receive a full measure of their value so as to secure to the Colony the benefit of their valued services. As, for example, the provision of \$18,000, recoverable in fees, for 3 Consultants in the Medical Department, who are professors of the Hong Kong University doing specialist and consulting work and whose value to the Colony cannot be over-estimated.

The abolition of the General Works Office of the Public Works Department, referred to by the Hon. Colonial Secretary in his Budget speech, is an economy measure of doubtful expediency. I do not know to what extent, if at all, honourable members will share my view; but the application of the pruning knife to the technical staff of top-notch men in the professional ranks of a highly specialised department may find the Colony, under normal conditions, bare of dependable men when important public works of large magnitude call for trained technicians with a knowledge of local conditions that can only be acquired after a few years' residence and professional practice in the Colony. Mistakes of unsoundness men newly recruited from Britain and unacquainted with the local physical and climatic conditions may prove so expensive as to absorb all the injudicious savings effected during a period of doubt and anxiety. The advantage of co-ordination obtained in the General Works Office will be lost by abolition and, speaking as a layman, I doubt if the redistribution of work hitherto coming within the purview of the General Works Office will tend to greater efficiency or potential economy. One disadvantage is obvious—the disadvantage of decentralisation and hence more costly supervision.

The Luxury Line.

Saying what I have just stated one is not unmindful of the fact that there are branches of the service in which it is little short of a luxury to retain officers on sterling salaries whose positions can and should be filled by men and women who can perform the duties with equal if not greater efficiency but drawing their salaries in dollars.

To better illustrate the comparative cost of the two divisions of the clerical service I have compiled a brief summary that goes to show with how much indifference the clamour for economy in administration is received.

The members of the senior and accounting staff are all paid in sterling, while those of the junior clerical staff are paid in dollars. The comparison is a striking one. The senior clerical branch was

(Continued on Page 7.)

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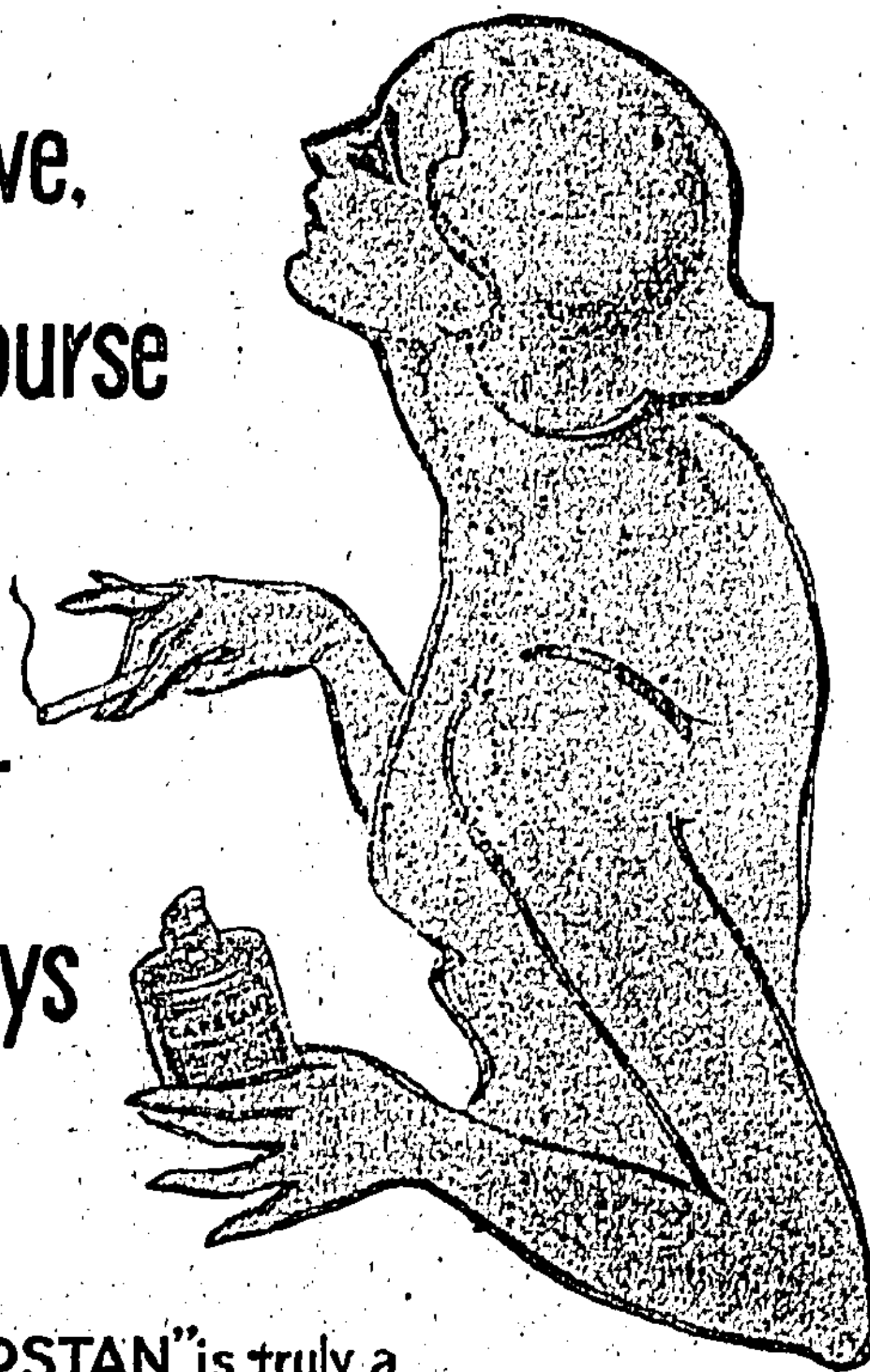
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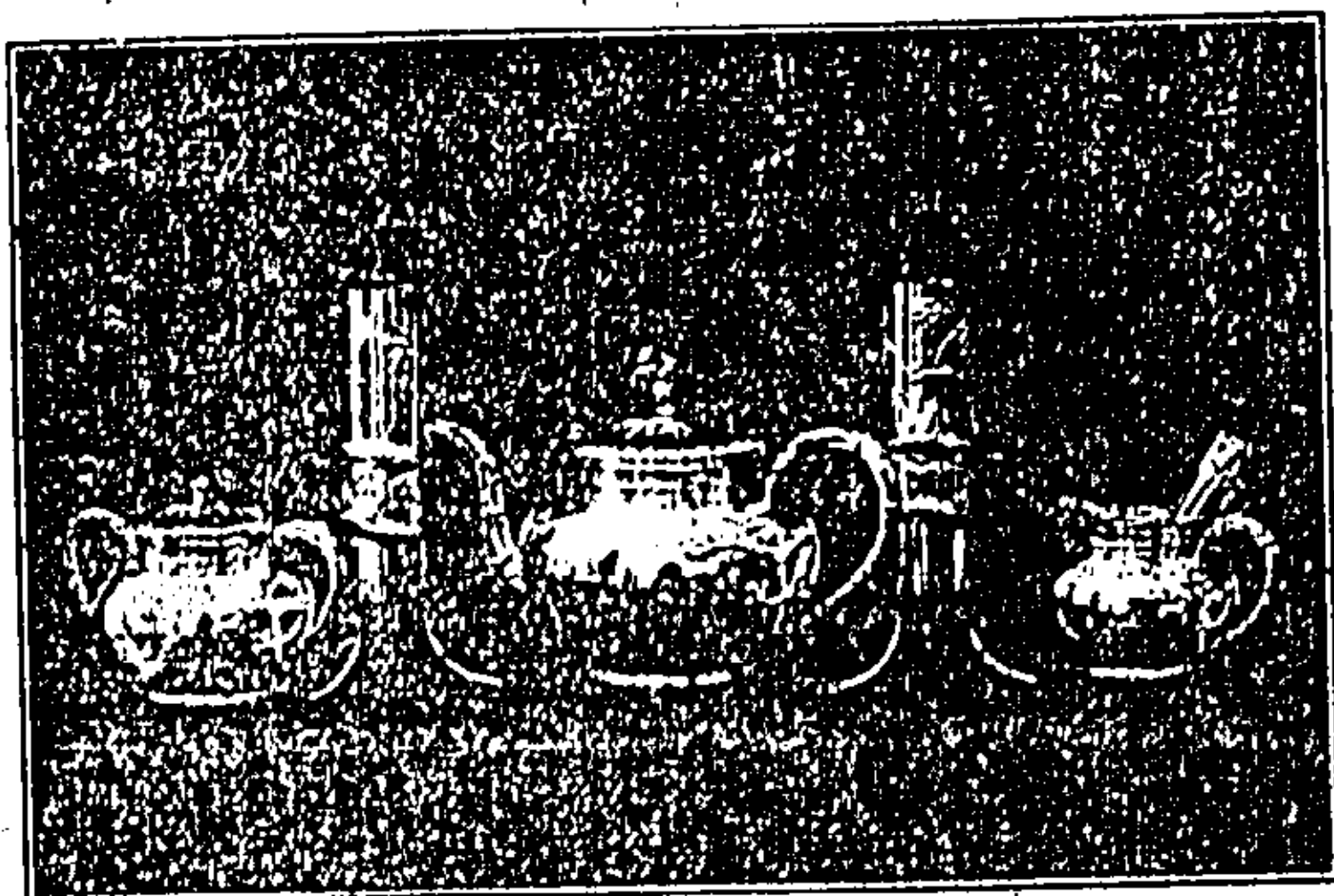
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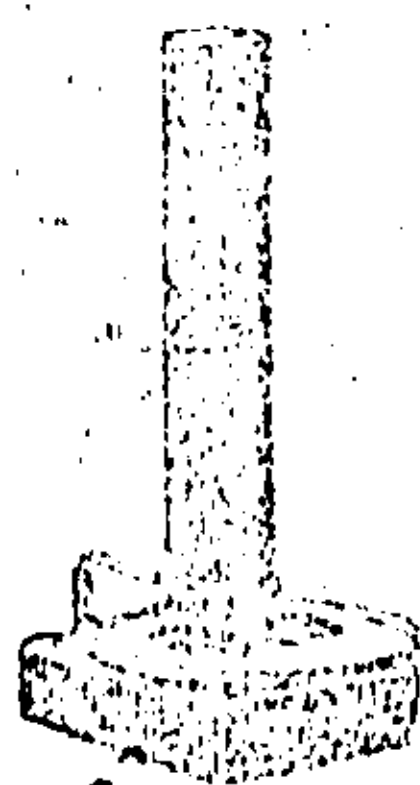
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The China Mail.

Hong Kong, Friday, Oct. 23, 1931.

"Equal Sacrifices."

Our forecast of the tenor of the Unofficials' speeches on the Budget at the Legislative Council yesterday was literally borne out to the full. They even had the temerity—shall we say?—of challenging the Government on the subject of Civil Servants' salaries, knowing full well that the Official majority would prove an insurmountable hurdle. Still, that of itself has, or should have, a certain moral effect that cannot altogether be ignored either by the Government or the Secretary of State for the Colonies. On numerous occasions in the past we have ploughed a lonely furrow in defence of the Civil Service salaries, save and except for a few glaring anomalies that simply shrieked for adjustment or abolition. We are yet too much in the dark—as are the Unofficials themselves—in regard to the complete effect of the Retrenchment Committee's recommendations and the action taken on those recommendations in regard to next year.

The senior Unofficial member of the Council remarked on the Secretary of States' decision as being contrary to the advice of the Governor. "What it will actually cost the Colony we do not know; everything must depend on the movement of exchange, but whatever the cost the Colony cannot afford it." He also alluded to a statement by the Colonial Secretary that "the Government does not consider it fair that one section only of the community should bear such a disproportionate share of the burden of balancing the Budget." Therein lies the crux of the whole problem. That official view of the Government is the view of all of us: No one, not even the highest salaried man in a mercantile firm, could honestly approve of any system involving an unequal sacrifice on the part of the Civil Service. As at Home, during the present national crisis, so here—all sacrifices must be borne equally by all classes of the community.

The onus lies on the authorities to prove up to the hilt in clear and unambiguous language that this policy is being rigidly carried out in regard to the Civil Service. Their latest pronouncement—that sterling salaries should as from the New Year be converted at current rate of exchange, with the proviso that for the present payment should not be made at more than \$20 to the £—cannot be said to bear out any official desire for equality of sacrifice. There is little cause for wonder that the Unofficials protested in most emphatic terms yesterday against the decision. The representative of the General Chamber of Commerce moved an amendment to reduce the appropriation to effect a reduction of ten per cent. in salaries, to balance the abandonment of the exchange compromise. Pleading, as usual, that Civil Servants had made sufficient sacrifices, the Governor refused to accept the amendment which, in Committee, was naturally defeated by the Official majority—a majority sitting in judgment on a question affecting their own monthly pay cheques! Need more be said?

News in Brief.

Owing to abnormal pressure on our space—"Talkie Talks" are held over till to-morrow.

The lowest open air temperature yesterday was 67 degrees. The humidity was 62 at 10 a.m. and 63 at 4 p.m.

A notice to mariners, posted at the Harbour Office, states that an abandoned junk is drifting in Lat. 22.11 N. and Long. 114.52 E. It is a danger to navigation.

There was a blaze of considerable proportions on the hills behind Lai-chikok, which commenced long before midnight. Clearly discernible to the passengers on the Star Ferry, the conflagration took the form of a huge letter C.

The last case at the Assizes concluded before the Chief Justice and a jury yesterday. Cheung Lung and Yip Po, were charged with assaulting a woman named Ko Ho, with intent to rob her, at 12, Catchick Street, Kennedy Town. The jury returned a unanimous verdict of guilty against the first accused and not guilty against the other. Taking into consideration a plea by the jury for leniency the judge sentenced Cheung Lung to on year's hard labour.

Three men, armed with daggers, gained entrance to the first floor of 171, Tung Choi Street occupied by Mrs. Margaret Lam this morning. Mrs. Lam shouted "save life" both in Panti and Hakka, whereupon the intruders fled without taking anything.

The case in which a Chinese woman, Tam Sze, was charged with uttering a forged \$10 note of the Chartered Bank, again came before Mr. Fraser in the Kowloon Magistracy this morning. She was sentenced to four months' imprisonment. A man who was charged with being an accessory before the fact was discharged.

Two Chinese pleaded "guilty" to breaking and entering on the night of October 12 No. 171, Tam Kung Road, and stealing a quantity of furniture covers and bed linen, when charged at the Kowloon Magistracy this morning. First accused was sent to jail for six months and the second for three months.

Two boat women to-day pleaded "guilty" in the Marine Court to charges of (1) loitering their craft within 100 yards of the Naval Yard; and (2) dredging in the naval anchorage. They were each fined \$5 or five days on the first count, and \$3 or three days on the other, the jail terms, in the event of the fines not being paid, to run consecutively.

The Hong Kong Branch of The English Association will hold its annual general meeting, for the election of office-bearers and committee, in The Helena May Institute on Tuesday, November 3, at 5.30 p.m. His Excellency, Sir William Peel K.C.M.G., K.B.E., will preside, and Mr. G. P. de Martin M.B.E., M.A., will talk on "People Who Read and Write History." All interested are invited to attend.

WARSHIPS IN PORT.

The following British warships were in harbour to-day:—
Berwick—North arm.
Cornflower—No. 4 buoy.
Kent—No. 6 buoy.
Magnolia—No. 7 buoy.
Marazion—No. 5 buoy.
Medway—West wall.
Odin—West wall.
Olympus—In dock.
Orpheus—West wall.
Osiris—West wall.
Oswald—West wall.
Otus—West wall.
Pandora—West wall.
Parthian—West wall.
Perseus—In dock.
Phoenix—West wall.
Proteus—West wall.
Sandwich—No. 8 buoy.
Sepoy—East wall.
Seraph—No. 11 buoy.
Seraphis—No. 12 buoy.
Somme—East wall.
Sterling—No. 10 buoy.
Stormcloud—Kowloon wharf.
Tamar—Basin.
Tarantula—In dock.
Vindictive—No. 5 buoy.
Foreign Men-of-War.
Fook On—Chinese gunboat.
Macau—Portuguese cruiser.
Mindanao—American gunboat.
9 American submarines.

'PLANE CRASH.

Machine Recovered from the Water.

The SGB seaplane on which Flt. Lt. Stainforth crashed on Wednesday, September 16, has been recovered from the bottom of Southampton Water.

The machine was found to be intact, but one of the floats was slightly damaged, and also the cockpit from which Stainforth slipped himself free.

Divers had spent many hours below the surface securing the machine with cables, and it was eventually hauled up by the derricks on the naval salvage ship. The seaplane has been taken to the Supermarine Works for the necessary repairs and examination.

OPEN!

Surrounded by aldermen and members, a country Mayor was recently opening a new golf course. He took a mighty swing with a niblick, which he buried in the earth a foot behind the ball.

Then, in solemn tones, he said: "Gentlemen, I declare these links well and truly opened."

Golf leaf varies in thickness from 1-200,000 to 1-250,000 of an inch?

Soap was made more than 2,000 years ago by the Gauls.

CHINESE OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM

REPLY TO JAPANESE NOTE OF OCTOBER 9, 1930

The following is the text of the Chinese Government's Memorandum in reply to the Japanese Memorandum submitted to Nanking early this month:—

"In defiance of International Law and in violation of the provisions of the Covenant of the League of Nations as well as the Peace Pact of Paris and the Nine-Power Treaty signed at Washington, Japan has suddenly and without provocation invaded and occupied portions of the Chinese provinces of Laoning and Kirin, overturned the lawful provincial and district administrations, and in the course of the invasion committed many acts of war, and others not permitted by International Law even in war, such as the killing of innocent civilians, the bombardment of fortified towns, the bombing of passenger trains, and the removal and seizure of public and private property, etc.

Japan's Pledge.
"China and Japan being both bound by the above-mentioned international agreements imposing on their signatories the obligation to seek for the peaceful settlement of all disputes, China at once appealed to the Council of the League of Nations. The Council called upon the Japanese Government to give orders for immediate withdrawal of their troops from the areas occupied since September 18 and decided to accept the solemn pledge given by Japan to comply with its request, fixing its further meeting for October 14, should by that time the pledge remain unfulfilled.

No Resistance Offered.
"The Chinese Government refrained from the very beginning from any and every act of hostility, going to the length of strictly ordering all the military forces not to offer resistance in whatever form to the continuous advance of the Japanese troops, and in spite of provocative actions increasing every day in intensity and embracing even wider areas.

At the same time the strictest discipline was imposed on the nation for the protection in every way of the lives and property of Japanese residents within the Chinese territory under Chinese administration and the fact that no untoward incident has occurred anywhere in the vast areas under Chinese jurisdiction proves conclusively that the undertaking given by the Chinese Government to the Council of the League of Nations is being observed most scrupulously. Repeated Government orders and proclamations have confined the righteous indignation of our people within lawful bounds, and the mandate of the Chinese Government issued on October 7, ordering all local authorities "to give full protection to foreign nationals and to prevent undesirable elements from taking advantage of the situation by inciting any unlawful actions," further strengthened Government instructions just at the same when it became too obvious that the Japanese Government was not fulfilling its pledge of withdrawal.

Japanese Declaration

Not Carried Out.

"Acting upon the resolution of the Council of the League of Nations, the Chinese Government has appointed two high officers to take over the places to be evacuated and duly notified the Japanese Government and the Council to that effect. But the Japanese Government has not yet carried out its declared intention to hand the places under their occupation to the Chinese authorities. As is shown by the report of a neutral observer, such places as Shenyang, Kirin, Tun-hua, Hailin, Tienchantai, etc., are still under the control of Japanese troops. Meanwhile these troops keep on killing and wounding innocent citizens and destroying property without the slightest provocation.

[A Japanese communique came to hand to-day too late for insertion, but will be published in full to-morrow.]

The Boycott.

"It must therefore be a matter of surprise to the world that popular

indignation in China has limited itself to the mere refusal to purchase Japanese goods. The freedom to choose one's purchases is an individual right with which no government interferes, and, while it is the duty of every government to protect foreign nationals, it is bound neither by any recognized standard of governance nor by any principle of International Law to prohibit or punish the exercise of an elemental right of citizenship. If there be any responsibility in the matter, it entirely lies with the Japanese Government, which has, by many acts of unfriendliness since the Wanpaoshan incident, created this general prejudice against Japanese merchandise.

Aggressive Actions of Japanese Military.

"While the Chinese Government observes with the greatest scrupulousness the resolution of the Council of the League of Nations by adopting special measures for the protection of Japanese lives and property and by refraining from all acts tending to aggravate the situation, with the result, as already stated, that no untoward incident has happened to any Japanese subject, the Japanese military have continued their aggressive actions in the Northeastern Provinces which have culminated in the recent aerial attack on Chinchow, where the provincial authorities of Laoning have established their provisional offices since the occupation of Shenyang, its capital. This act of war, as the Japanese Government is aware, has led the Council of the League of Nations to decide to meet earlier than on the date originally fixed. The Chinese Government notes with satisfaction the reference made by the Japanese Government to responsibility of both nations to the League of Nations but desires to point out that it is Japan that has committed during the past ten days the various acts that have so aggravated the situation that the resolution of the League of Nations has failed to be carried out, for which the Chinese Government cannot be held responsible.

Protection of Japanese Subjects.

"The Chinese Government will continue to exert its best to protect the lives and property of Japanese subjects although in the face of the greatest difficulty due to the unceasing aggressive acts of the Japanese troops, and will hold the Japanese Government responsible for any unfortunate consequences resulting from the continued employment of military force by Japan as an instrument of her national policy, especially in view of the fact that both governments have presented their cases before the Council of the League of Nations which has prescribed a course of action for the two countries to follow.

Japanese Troops Blamed.

"Firmly believing that the present lack of understanding and the difficulties in the commercial inter-

(Continued on Page 5.)

To-day's Thought.

A fine sense of humour will generally pull us out of the hole quicker than a derrick.

Ten Years Ago.

[From the "China Mail" of October 23, 1921.]

To-day's dollar is worth 2/9%.

After taking an active interest in public affairs for thirty years, the Hon. Mr. Ho Fook is retiring from the Legislative Council after November 10. Mr. Ho Fook desired to retire this month but will continue in office until after the next meeting of the Legislative Council, at the request of His Excellency the Governor. It will be glad news to his friends that Mr. Ho Fook's decision is not the result of failing health; he feels that the time has now come when he should retire into private life after long taking an interest in public affairs.

BUDGET DEBATE

(Continued from Page 5.)

staffed by 66 officers in 1931 at an estimated cost of \$334,113.

The 1932 estimates provide for 56 officers whose aggregate salaries will amount to 409,634.

Showing 10 fewer officers out of 66 at an increased salary of \$75,521.

The per capita cost to the Colony of each of the sterling paid clerks will be \$7,315.

The provision made in 1931 for 633 dollar clerks in the Government pay roll was \$916,050.

It is proposed to increase this branch of the service to 679 clerks in 1932 whose aggregate salaries will amount to \$973,480, or an increase of \$57,430 with an increase in personnel of 46 more clerks.

The per capita cost of each of the dollar clerks will be \$1,433.

It remains to be established whether a clerk possesses the factor of 5 in efficiency value over the clerk.

Locally Recruited Hands.

To pursue the analysis a little more minutely. Take, for example, the case of Senior clerks in Class II, and compare them with the Highest Class in the Junior branch. The combined salaries of 9 of the former class are estimated at \$94,481 for 1932, while 10 clerks of the latter group will cost the Colony \$63,000 next year. The comparative individual salaries is \$10,498 and \$5,300. It is matter of common knowledge that for locally recruited hands to attain to the Higher Class in the Junior Clerical Service they must be of great efficiency and have seen a long period of service. The commencing salary of the highest class dollar clerks is \$4,800 a year. Cases are on record of qualified men with meritorious service attaining that grade only after 30 years in Government employ. By contrast a sterling clerk upon joining the service in Class II, forthwith draws \$460, or \$7,360 at Ex. Is. 3d., with all the privileges of home leave, etc., and the additional cost to taxpayers that these privileges to glorified men imply. This

differential treatment of local versus imported hands cannot be too strongly criticised.

Kowloon's Needs.

In dealing with subjects relating to Kowloon none is new to Your Excellency, as representations have been made to Government from time to time for the past three years. Since the first reading of the Appropriation Bill three weeks ago, I have been in communication, through the honorary secretary, with the vigilant committee of the Kowloon Residents' Association. That versatile committee, who keep watch and ward over municipal affairs on the Mainland, have favoured me with a list of the most important subjects which require Government attention. They embrace such public questions as Kowloon's need of improved postal facilities commensurate with its size; the provision of police protection in Kowloon Tong; typhoon signals in the north-eastern districts of the Peninsula; the need of a portable fire-pump to deal with outbreaks in the outlying districts of New Kowloon; the Yaumati Ferry approach; hospital and bathing facilities; and disorderly houses in the residential areas.

To deal with the various subjects in their proper order, as long ago as September of last year the K.R.A. invited the Government's attention to the absence of postal facilities in the Hung Hom, Mong Kok, and Kowloon Tong districts of Kowloon. In April last the Committee again complained of the unsatisfactory state of affairs at the main Kowloon post office. The Association is very modest in its request, it suggests as a temporary measure that the accommodation be increased by the addition of a structure similar to the adjacent wooden police buildings, which would enable the postal service in general to be considerably extended at a relatively small cost and better facilities provided for sorting, etc., resulting in quicker delivery of letters. With the com-

pletion of the Ho Tung apartment building and the extension of the Kowloon Y.M.C.A., Kowloon's diminutive post office is completely dwarfed. Whereas on all hands Kowloon bears a striking evidence of considerable prosperity by dint of private enterprise, it reflects little credit on Government when it exhibits so much indifference with the planning and erection of a new post office fulfilling the requirements of the large population of Kowloon.

Kowloon Tong. Recent events are still too fresh within one's memory to fail to emphasize the need of a police station in Kowloon Tong. The growth of this and adjoining districts has been simply amazing, and it was with considerable regret that residents were officially informed that, owing to financial stringency, not only the original proposal to erect a police station, but a subsidiary proposal to erect two police boxes with telephones installed in each, have been cut out of the Estimates for 1932.

I have been requested to urge for consideration the desirability of displaying typhoon warning signals at Kowloon Tong and in the vicinity of Kowloon City. The residents' request, made a year ago, was turned down by Government in February of this year. The cost of the erection of a typhoon signal mast at each of the two localities is comparatively small and should be justified before the next typhoon season.

Fire Appliances. Owing to the inaccessibility by the available fire appliances to certain areas in the Kowloon City district, it is considered desirable that provision be made for a portable fire pump of the trailer type. Its cost is inconsiderable and can be defended by the increased protection afforded to the lives and property of the poorer inhabitants of the Kowloon City districts, who are least able to bear any such loss.

I am aware that Government does not regard with favour the suggestion of surfacing the roadway and providing a properly levelled car park in the vicinity of the Yaumati Ferry Wharf. When

it is remembered, however, that actually an average of 25,000 people use the Yaumati Pier daily this very necessary public improvement should not be long delayed.

Official statistics obtained of the number of out-patients treated in the Kowloon Hospital for the corresponding first six months of 1930 and 1931 give a total of 7,695 and 10,085, respectively. It is no exaggeration to state, as was pointed out to Government last month, that the accommodation is pitifully inadequate. The K.R.A. in their letter to Government describes "the waiting room as so small that many of the out-patients have to sit on the floor and door steps until other cases have been dealt with; this applies equally to male and female patients." For lack of accommodation applications for admission of in-patients have frequently had to be refused. As compared with a total of 439 operations performed during the whole of last year, there were 313 during the first six months of this year. This latter figure shows an increase of 167 cases as against last year's 146. The increase is over 100 per cent. The addition of another European medical officer and the increase of the nursing staff are urgent requirements demanding the immediate attention of Government.

Bathing Facilities.

Not much need be said for increased public bathing facilities in Kowloon. The subject was exhaustively and ably dealt with in the columns of the Press in the early Spring. If the Government could see its way to remedy the deficiency before the next bathing season public dissatisfaction would be greatly placated.

This is not the first occasion that I am addressing the Council on the subject of the presence of disorderly houses in the residential areas of Kowloon. The serious objection to their existence is obvious when it is stated that such houses are in the neighbourhood of schools for boys and girls. Their removal to a less objectionable location has been repeatedly urged in the interest of public morality and safety. I trust it will not be long before a suitable solution is found to this vexed problem.

I hope there is no truth in the report that Government contemplates a reduction in the public lighting on the Island and at Kowloon. If it is on the score of economy that it is proposed to reduce the number of street lamps at certain hours of the night, then in the interest of public safety let it be urged that the sooner this proposed measure of false economy is abandoned the greater will be the sense of security at present enjoyed by the community.

Hitherto the revenue derived from Land Sales has been put down in the Estimates as one lump sum for the whole of the Colony. It will serve a useful purpose for comparison if the item "Premiums on New Leases" under Head 10 "Land Sales" could be shown separately for Hong Kong, Kowloon and the New Territories.

Repairs To Boilers.

There are two items under Head 29—Kowloon-Canton Railway—which may be queried. Sub-head 35 calls for an expenditure of \$32,400 for One Boiler for 2-6-4 Type Class B Locomotives. Can the repairs to the two defective boilers not be effected at one or other of the local Dock Companies, whose facilities for handling such work are unsurpassed in any part of the world, thereby doing away with the need for a spare boiler? In this way some little assistance will be afforded the premier local industry, which should be most welcome in these days of intensive competitive tendering for jobs.

In order also to foster local industries every endeavour should, I think, be employed to utilise products of local manufacture in all Government building and construction works. While on this subject, it would be interesting to learn if there is a possibility of securing for Hong Kong the benefits and advantages of preferential tariff treatment in respect of products of local manufacture.

Item 36 makes provision for repairs to Galvanised Steel Plate Fencing round the Loco Yard, Hung Hom—\$10,500. The Colonial Secretary made reference to this item in his speech. It is considered by some people that the elaborate galvanised railings which have been placed around the Railway property in the vicinity of Yaumati Station and Kowloon Tong, could have been substituted by some less costly fencing. It is suggested that any railings required for renewals to the railings enclosing the Loco Yards should be obtained by lifting the present

railings and replacing them with barbed wire on properly doped wood stanchions.

Building of Coaches. Item 42—May I be permitted to re-state my remarks last year when I said—

"\$40,000 for new bodywork for four coaches. There are technical men who advocate that, before incurring this expenditure, enquiries might be made of, and tenders invited from, firms in the Colony capable of building railway coaches, of which there are several. In this connection there are those who hold that the present third-class coaches are of an entirely unsuitable type for the traffic on this line."

Before approving this item I would like to know if these suggestions have been acted upon.

While motoring in the New Territories one is unpleasantly confronted with the huge quantity of scrub and undergrowth on some of the most dangerous corners of the road to Tai Po. I therefore strongly recommend that a portion of the vote of \$5,000 for Brushwood Clearing be utilised immediately for clearing the said corners and that the work be done under proper supervision.

I return to the suggestion in the forlorn hope of a start being made, when funds permit, on the first section of the circular road to Sai Kung from Ngau Shi-wan to Ma Yue Tong. It was only the other day that I read in a recent number of "Motor" that the motorist is not getting a fair deal. It is argued that "as a ratepayer he contributes his share to the roads as an average citizen. As a taxpayer he pays his full share of general taxation. In addition he contributes heavily to motor taxation for the sole reason that he wants to use the roads," and yet, as the Senior Unofficial Member has pointed out, simultaneously with imposing the additional petrol tax, in Hong Kong the Government has reduced the vote for roads. All round London are to be seen examples of roads cutting across fields of little agricultural value. As soon as the road comes the value of the land is increased enormously. Houses go up, new building and other work is stimulated, and new public facilities are created. It can be said with equal truth of the New Territories. If we are to listen to the panic-mongers all new road making and road widening is to cease. This will check the development of motoring, and the progress of land development and building. "Surely," the technical journal argues, "it is far better to make use of derelict fields in suitable areas and open them by roads which will create new land values, and will give new homes to the people."

Adverse comment has been made in the local Press of the official omission to notify in the Gazette appointments of all Committees of Inquiry with the names of the members composing such Committees. It was the practice to gazette all such appointments, and if Your Excellency will be pleased to cause that instructions be given to revert to the former practice I feel sure the information will be generally appreciated.

"No Amounts Please!"

Hitherto the names of successful tenderers for Government contracts have been published in the Government Gazette together with the amount of the successful bid. While names are still given, for some unexplained reason the amounts of the contracts have been omitted. In the Shanghai Municipal Gazette a full list of the tenderers is given and it should not be too much to ask that when awards are made by the Tenders Adjudication Committee the various amounts should be notified in the local Gazette for public information.

I heartily concur in the graceful tribute paid by the Senior Unofficial Member to the excellent work of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the New Territories Medical Benevolent Society. I would go further and appeal to Your Excellency to show the community's appreciation of the good work of the Medical Benevolent Society in a practical manner. This appreciation might take the form of a vote of, say, \$2,400 a year under Head 32 "Charitable Services." With this money the doctors in private practice, who are so generously giving of their time and professional skill towards providing a free medical service on the mainland, will be enabled to dispense medicines to the poor Chinese patients benefiting by the clinic organised in various centres in the

(Continued on Page 11.)

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HEIAN MARU	Tuesday	10th November.
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KATORI MARU	Saturday	31st October.
KASHIMA MARU	Saturday	14th November.
SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila & Ports.		
KITANO MARU	Saturday	21st November.
GOMBAY via Singapore, Penang, & Colombo.		
TOKUSHIMA MARU	Friday	30th October.
IYO MARU	Wednesday	11th November.
SOUTH AMERICA (West Coast) via Japan, Honolulu, Los Angeles, Mexico and Panama.		
GINYO MARU	Tuesday	20th November.
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TSUYAMA MARU	Wednesday	11th November.
LIVERPOOL via Port Said, Stamboul (Constantinople), Genoa & Marseilles.		
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MURORAN MARU	Thursday	29th October.
MALACCA MARU	Saturday	7th November.
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YASUKUNI MARU	Wednesday	28th October.
KAGA MARU	Friday	30th October.

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O. S. K.

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JAPAN PORTS (Frequent Services).	Honolulu Maru	Sat.	24th Oct.
LONDON, HAMBURG, ROTTERDAM & ANTWERP via Singapore, Colombo, Suez & Port Said.	Argon Maru	Wed.	28th Oct.
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BOMBAY via Singapore, Penang & Colombo.	Kwansei Maru	Sat.	12th Dec.
CALCUTTA via Singapore, Belawan Deli & Rangoon.	Celebes Maru	Tues.	3rd Nov.
HAIPHONG via Hanoi & Pakhoi (Fortnightly).	Menado Maru	Thurs.	29th Oct.
KEELUNG via Swatow & Amoy (3 p.m. every Sunday).	Canton Maru	Sun.	25th Oct.
JAPAN PORTS via Keelung TAKAO via Swatow & Amoy (Fortnightly).	Deli Maru	Thurs.	5th Nov.

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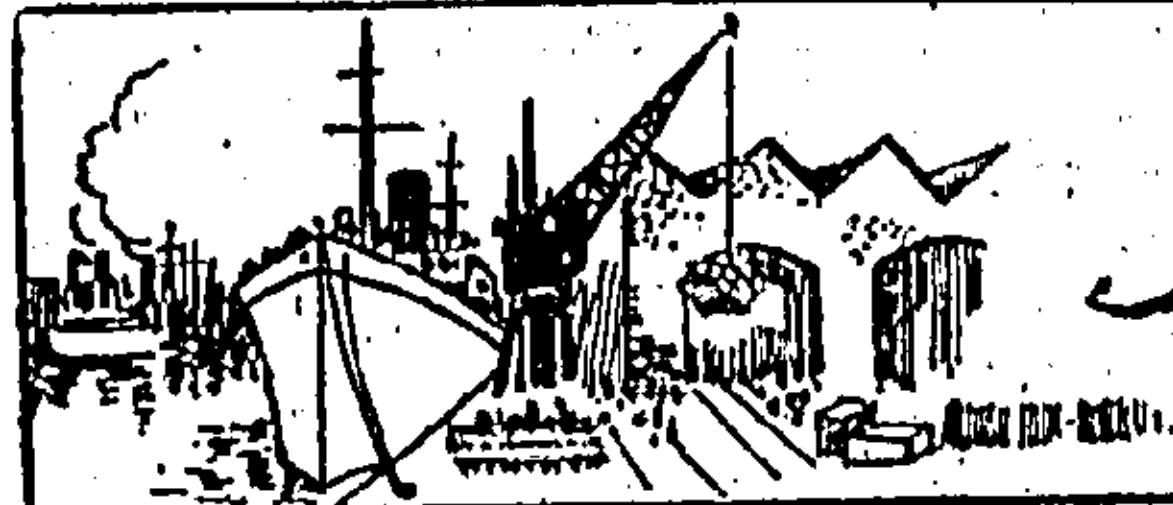
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CHINESE OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM.

(Continued from Page 6.)

course between the Chinese and Japanese people are the inevitable outcome of the innumerable unlawful acts of the Japanese troops the Chinese Govern-

ment is confident that, if the Japanese Government should exert itself to remove the causes that have brought about the present deplorable situation, gratifying results will be secured in the improvement of the relations between the two countries and the maintenance of world peace.—Nanking, October 12, 1931.—Sino News Service.



Shipping Intelligence.

KAU SING IN TYPHOON.

Official Replies to Queries.

LOG BOOK EXTRACTS.

On behalf of the Hon. Mr. W. E. L. Shenton, the Hon. Dr. S. W. T'so asked the following questions at the Legislative Council yesterday:—

1. How many craft were during September 2 last towed to safety by Kau Sing from:—
(a) West end of Harbour?
(b) East end of Harbour?
2. How far west did the Kau Sing patrol?
3. How many requests were received by Harbour Office for assistance?
Were they passed on to the Kau Sing?
If so, is there any record of action taken?
Can the log be produced?
4. Details of craft refusing assistance?
5. Is it a fact that the Kau Sing was anchored in Kowloon Bay during the afternoon of September 2 when craft were sunk in various parts of the Harbour?
If so, between what hours and why?
6. Much as Naval assistance is appreciated, was it necessary for H.M.S. Stormcloud to carry out the rescues of fishermen on Lamma Island, after the typhoon?
Could not this have been done by the Kau Sing?
7. What are the duties of the Kau Sing during the presence of a typhoon in the Colony?
8. Is the Kau Sing worked under the instructions of the Harbour Master or does the Master act on his initiative?
9. Is the Kau Sing only intended to help large vessels or any size of craft requiring assistance?
10. What acts of assistance did the Kau Sing perform during the typhoon of September 2?

Official Replies.

- The Hon. Harbour Master replied as follows:—
1. (a) Two Trading Junks.—A Third was towed some distance but the tow line either parted or was cut. The latter is suspected because the Kau Sing cannot steer at very low speeds and the junk people complain that she tows too fast. A line was thrown to a fourth junk but although caught was not made fast.
(b) None.—No junks or cargo boats, approachable by Kau Sing, were found in need of assistance.
 2. Past Green Island where two small sampans were offered assistance at 10.30 a.m. This assistance was refused and

the sampans reached shelter under their own oars.

3. (a) A request was received from the Kowloon Godown Company for the Kau Sing to tow some lighters from off Kowloon Wharf to Yaumati Shelter. This was passed to Kau Sing but no action was taken as there appeared to be no danger to life.—The Wharfage Co. having their own launches available.

(b) A request was received from Kwong Hip Lung to tow some lighters from West Point to Yaumati. As by then the Kau Sing had proceeded to the Eastern end of the harbour it was explained to his representative that the craft in the west having had their opportunity to be towed to safety it would be unfair to

recall the Kau Sing from the East and so deprive any craft in the East, who might be in need of assistance, of their opportunity to accept towage. This request was not passed to Kau Sing.

(c) A report was received that some lighters belonging to Butterfield & Swire were in trouble to the westward. As the Kau Sing had already proceeded to the East this report was not passed to the Kau Sing for the same reason as set forth in 3 (b).

(d) A report was received from the Green Island Cement Company that some lighters were in distress off Hok Yuen (Kowloon Bay). This message was passed to Kau Sing. On arrival at Hok Yuen (Continued on Page 10.)

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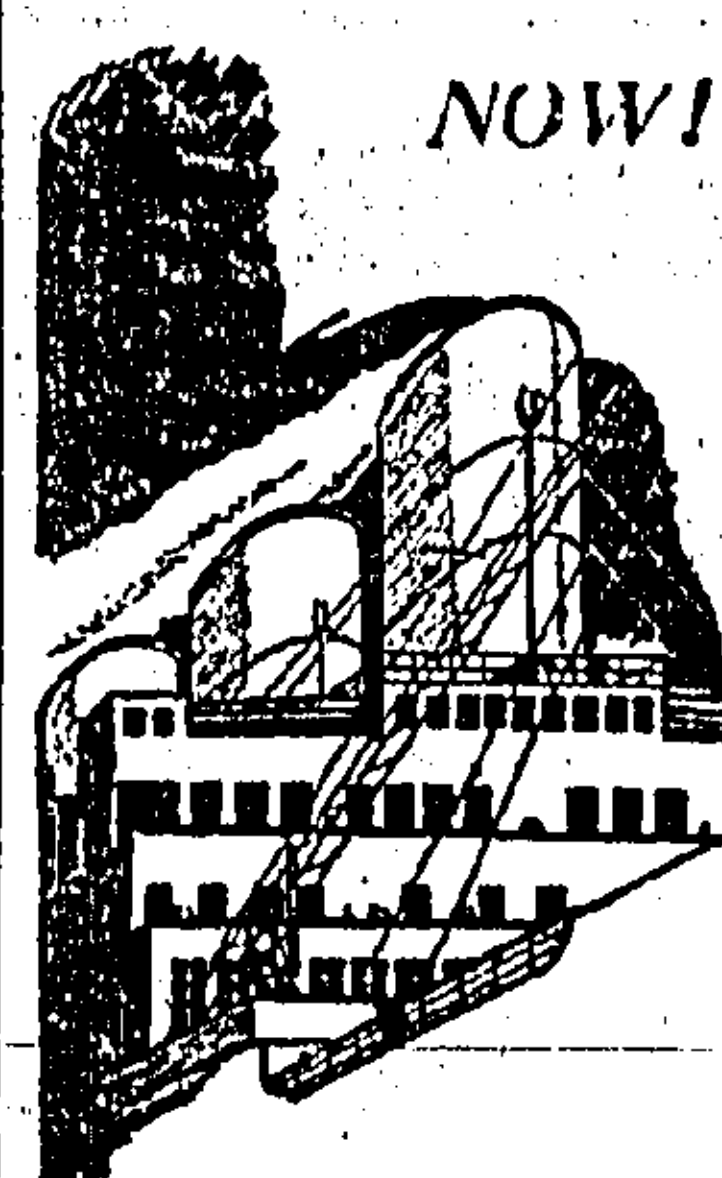
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Emp. of Canada	Dec. 5	Dec. 8	Dec. 10	Dec. 12	Dec. 12	Dec. 12	Dec. 30
Emp. of Russia	Dec. 18	Dec. 21	Dec. 22	Dec. 24	Dec. 26	Dec. 26	Jan. 4
Emp. of Japan	1932	1932	1932	1932	1932	1932	1932
Emp. of Japan	Jan. 2	Jan. 5	Jan. 7	Jan. 9	Jan. 9	Jan. 9	Jan. 17
Emp. of Asia	Feb. 5	Feb. 8	Feb. 9	Feb. 11	Feb. 13	Feb. 13	Feb. 22
Emp. of Canada	Feb. 20	Feb. 23	Feb. 25	Feb. 27	Feb. 27	Feb. 27	Mar. 6
Emp. of Russia	Mar. 4	Mar. 7	Mar. 8	Mar. 10	Mar. 12	Mar. 12	Mar. 21
Emp. of Japan	Mar. 15	Mar. 18	Mar. 20	Mar. 22	Mar. 24	Mar. 24	Mar. 31
Emp. of Asia	Mar. 25	Mar. 28	Mar. 29	Mar. 31	Apr. 2	Apr. 2	Apr. 11
Emp. of Canada	Apr. 9	Apr. 12	Apr. 14	Apr. 16	Apr. 18	Apr. 18	Apr. 27
Emp. of Russia	Apr. 22	Apr. 25	Apr. 26	Apr. 28	Apr. 30	Apr. 30	May 9
Emp. of Japan	May 7	May 10	May 12	May 14	May 16	May 16	May 25
Emp. of Asia	May 20	May 23	May 24	May 26	May 28	May 28	June 6
Emp. of Canada	June 4	June 7	June 9	June 11	June 13	June 13	June 22
Emp. of Russia	June 17	June 20	June 21	June 23	June 25	June 25	July 4

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BUDGET DEBATE

(Continued from Page 7.)

New Territories. This benevolent work owed its initiation to the public spirit of a few local residents and two frequent visitors to the Colony, whose modesty has prevented their beneficent work from being more widely known than it is. The originators of this Society have avoided publicity; but it seems time that the public should know a little about the fine service being rendered by the Society. The Society has one permanent Medical Officer who is paid a small nominal salary. He visits on six days a week. On Sunday visits are made by five medical officers who volunteer their services. Every case is examined and treated by a doctor. Many century old customs have already disappeared and Western medical methods are bringing new hope and happiness to the people of the New Territories.

Hon. Dr. S. W. Ts'o.

The Hon. Dr. S. W. Ts'o said:—I have studied the Budget for the year 1932 also the speech by the Hon. The Colonial Secretary on this subject with much interest. I desire to associate myself with the remarks and criticisms made on the Estimates by my Hon. Colleagues, the Senior Unofficial Member Sir Shou-son Chow, and Mr. Kotewall, in their speeches. At the same time I should like to add a few observations of my own which may not bear directly on any particular item of the Budget, which has been so carefully and ably reviewed by my Hon. Colleagues, but rather on the general effect which the increase of taxation has on the Chinese Community.

I quite agree that, in order to balance the Budget without reducing efficiency in administration, increase taxation is a matter of absolute necessity. In this respect I can assure Your Excellency that the Chinese Community will loyally support the Government. Nevertheless, I earnestly hope that, in its anxiety to increase the revenue, the Government will not impose or insist on, small Chinese traders such hard and stringent conditions that may kill their business and take away their living. For, I submit, that the prosperity of this Colony is judged by the success of the many and not of the few, and that small traders, who eke out a living by sheer industry and frugal habits, form the great majority of the population here.

Cost of Living.

Notwithstanding any opinion to the contrary, cost of living among the Chinese in the Colony has increased enormously during the last two years, although it has not increased in the same ratio as the value of sterling to silver. It does not therefore hit those, whose income is on a sterling basis, so hard as those whose income is in silver. To a dollar-paid man a dollar is a dollar and no more. We all know that the supply of necessities of life in the Colony depends chiefly on importation from abroad; some from gold countries and others from China. Recently Canton put a duty on fish and vegetables for export to Hong Kong; and there is no telling to what limit these taxes may extend. It behoves the Government, therefore, to seriously look into and find ways and means by which the farmers in the New Territories may be encouraged to increase agricultural production. I was informed that what the farmers need are facilities for transportation and a market of their own for their goods where they can dispose of their produce without being subject to hard bargains driven by stall-holders. I would suggest therefore that a Committee be appointed by the Government to enquire into the matter thoroughly and give the farmers every assistance possible.

Stereotype Education.

I am glad indeed that provision has been made in the Budget for the increase of school grants in the year 1932. The amount so increased is still, I consider, insufficient. Before the year 1913 the policy of the Government was to assist private schools. Since then that policy has been changed and more Government schools have been established and a higher standard of education provided. Whether it is the duty of the Government to provide Secondary Education for the public is a controversial point. But I remember that, on a speech day at St. Stephen's College, Sir Cecil Clementi, our late Governor, said in effect that "the Government

can only provide a "stereotype education and if any one desires a special education he must go to a school like St. Stephen's." From an economic point of view it would be very interesting, indeed, to know what was the actual sum expended in 1930 by the Government on its own schools and the number of pupils attending therein. A comparison of these figures will show the relative cost for education between a Government and a Private School.

With these few remarks I desire to join my Chinese colleagues in wishing Your Excellency a successful financial year for 1932. The recent rise of threepence to a dollar is an indication of improvement in our finances and augurs well for the coming year.

Hon. Mr. J. J. Paterson.

The Hon. Mr. Paterson said:—Sir, I find one advantage in being a young honourable member and that is that when it comes to my turn to speak other Unofficial members have dealt so fully, very fully in some cases, of the matters at issue—that, fortunately, there is very little left for me to say. I think there are only one or two points I want to mention.

The first is that I want to associate myself with my Honourable friend, Mr. Charles Mackie, on what he said about the harbour. The harbour is rather a controversial subject, and I have a very direct interest as chairman of one of the wharf companies, but I do feel that—that the Wharf Company puts a good deal of money into Government coffers and does not get an awful lot out. Last year, 1930, they put in \$91,000 and did a certain amount of dredging as the Hon. Mr. Mackie pointed out, and also made minor repairs to a road, and what benefits they have received from the Government for that I don't really know. The harbour is still very much what it was 10 or 15 years ago, and I really do seriously hope that something may be done about it.

Directors' Fees.

The other point I want to make is on the very vexed question of sterling salaries. Almost every Government officer I have discussed the matter with remarks, "You have put up all the Directors' fees" and is generally extremely vague as to what Directors' fees are. Well, as a matter of fact certain Directors' fees have been put up and I will deal with the companies I know.

The first one was one of our leading insurance companies. They make a very great deal of money in sterling and pay dividends in sterling and, not unnaturally, are now paying Directors' fees in sterling. Exactly the same thing happened in the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank which, I think, be fairly argued as not having increased their fees.

I admit that the two dollar companies of which I am chairman had suggested putting up their Directors' fees. In each instance the suggestion was made from the floor, but could not be dealt with because notice was required. I don't know what will happen at the forthcoming meetings, but I might be put through and the increase is only \$8,000, which I submit is tiny.

Hon. Mr. W. H. Bell.

The Hon. Mr. W. H. Bell said:—The senior unofficial member, the Hon. Sir Shou-son Chow, referred in his speech to the statement made by the Honourable the Colonial Secretary as regards the maintenance of the standard of our roads. The Hon. the Colonial Secretary actually stated, when referring to public works recurrent, "This vote has again been kept down to a low figure. It will, I fear, mean the lowering of the high standard at which the Colony's roads have hitherto been maintained." In my opinion, Sir, this is a step which should be avoided if possible. It seems to me that this policy is not a sound one, for surely it must be cheaper to maintain our roads at the present standard rather than to lower that standard and bring them up to the present standard at a later date. I would therefore press upon the Government the desirability, I might almost say the necessity, of maintaining the present standard of the roads of the Colony.

New Roads.

Whilst on the subject of roads I would like to refer to the estimated expenditure on new roads for the coming year. I note that there are 11 items in this connection, and that the total comes to \$392,500. I note with very much regret that only \$50,000 of this sum has been earmarked for the Shaikwan Road. I refer to the portion between Causeway Bay and Ming Yuen Gardens. This, as you know, is not an extension of some existing road the value of which may be problematical. It is the completion of a road which I may fairly describe as the main artery from East to West connecting up Shaikwan with Hong Kong. The present road is far too narrow for the traffic which it has to carry, more especially in the Summer time when the Tramway Co. have to carry enormous numbers of passengers to the bathing sheds beyond the Ming Yuen Gardens. A visit to this district on any evening in the Summer would certainly convince anyone who had any doubt on the subject of the necessity of completing the road as rapidly as possible. I see that the completion of the road is estimated to cost \$350,000. I trust that the Government will be able to vote larger sums in subsequent years, otherwise it looks as if the public might have to wait for seven years before the road is completed.

There are other roads, such as the motor road from May Road to Magazine Gap, the making of which I would like to press for, but I refrain from doing so in view of the fact that I consider the uncompleted portion of the Shaikwan Road to be the more important.

Direct Road Taxes.

When going into this question I make up some interesting figures as regards the receipts by the Government from direct road taxes. The main item is, of course, the lately increased Petrol Tax, but before going any further I would like to make it quite clear that I am not opposed to a Petrol Tax in principle. It is, in my opinion, quite sound that the more an individual or Company uses the roads the more they should pay towards their upkeep, and this is the principle upon which the Petrol Tax is levied. I feel, however, that it is somewhat of an anomaly that the amount budgeted for the upkeep of the roads should be reduced just when the Petrol Tax has been increased considerably. The following are the estimates for the various taxes:—

Petrol	\$600,000
Licences on Vehicles	
Motors	160,000
Motor drivers	28,000
Others	41,500
Other drivers	5,000
Making a total of	\$834,500
Against this the Government propose to spend:—	
Maintenance of Roads	\$385,500
New Roads	392,500

Making a total of \$777,800

What Tramways Pay.

It will be seen, therefore, that the amount the Government propose to spend is about \$55,000 less than the amount they estimate to get in from direct road taxes. I might, in addition, point out that the Hong Kong Tramway Company pay on an average about \$45,000 a year for the privilege of using the roads and, in addition, have to maintain a portion of the road, averaging probably .15 feet in width, from Kennedy Town to Shaikwan. I estimate that the cash payments and the cost of the above maintenance must come to an average of \$100,000 a year. It would appear, therefore, that the Government are getting about \$150,000—a year more than they propose to spend on maintenance and new development. Now it seems to me that these direct taxes should be sufficient to maintain the roads, but that it is hardly reasonable that they should be so greatly in excess of the amount required to do so. As regards new roads, the development of them brings in so much revenue to the Government from the sale of Crown lands and, later, from assessment taxes when the properties have been developed, that I consider the cost should be met mainly out of general revenue.

However, I do not propose to press for any reduction in the direct road taxes, but I do again urge upon the Government the necessity for maintaining the standard of our roads, and in particular I would ask their serious consideration to the question of pressing on with the completion of the Shaikwan Road at the earliest possible date. There is, of course, the question as to where the money is to come from. It is obvious, however, that the Government will in all probability have a substantial

surplus at the end of next year. When making this statement I have in mind the fact that a fair portion of the Government expenditure is in sterling. I have no definite figures but I imagine that they must have something between £400,000 and £500,000 to pay in sterling. Now as they have budgeted for these payments at an exchange of 1/4 it is quite obvious that, with the recent rise in exchange, they will not have to pay out so many dollars to obtain the requisite amount of sterling. The saving might be anything between 1½ to 2 million dollars.

A Definite Mandate.

My colleague, the Hon. Mr. Gordon Mackie, has spoken on the subject of Government salaries, and in view of the very definite mandate which he received from the Committee of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce and the China Association, it is my duty as Chairman of these two bodies to support him. My colleague dealt so fully with the subject that he has left but little that I can usefully add. I would like to point out, however, that since the present scale of salaries was recommended by the Salaries Commission there has been a very heavy fall in the retail as well as in the wholesale prices of all commodities as expressed in sterling, and it is only reasonable to argue that salaries should be reduced accordingly, seeing that these salaries are to be paid in the sterling equivalent in future or at any rate so long as exchange does not go below 1/4.

Hon. Mr. W. E. L. Shenton.

The Hon. Mr. W. E. L. Shenton was absent, attending the Pacific Relations Conference at Shanghai, and his speech was read by the Hon. Mr. S. W. Ts'o as under:—

We have again arrived at that period of the year when it is customary to bring the past under review, and make our calculations for the future. It is the occasion when the Unofficials of Your Excellency's Legislative Council are given an almost unfettered opportunity, of a roving criticism over the past and the future—in fact I believe one of Your Excellency's predecessors once described it, as the "Unofficials' half holiday." Personally I have always regarded it as an occasion, when a mass of mathematical calculations in the shape of the Estimates, and a series of highly technical departmental reports, are placed in our hands with the intention that we should travel through their intricate and varied ramifications, with the object of gaining some intelligent knowledge, of how the public revenue of this Colony has been spent, and the manner in which it is proposed it should be allocated in the coming year.

Cherished Toys Absent.

Our senior member has already expressed our appreciation of the clarity with which the Estimates and accompanying memoranda have been presented this year, and it is unnecessary for me to add anything to his eulogy. I should nevertheless like to commiserate with the Honourable the Director of Public Works, inasmuch as I find on perusing his "Notes on Estimates," that so many of his most cherished toys have been taken from his shop window, and placed on the obscure shelves of the future, but I nevertheless appreciate his very real desire to economise, as shown by the substantial pruning down of his Estimates, and the savings appearing in his Report—some of which, however, I find it difficult to agree with. I sincerely hope the economies in road maintenance are not drastic, and there are some other items which I will deal with later where I should like to have seen, either some provision made, or larger allocations.

Our system is not without its difficulties for the Unofficials, a mass of detail is placed before us, and out of this maze of figures we are expected to follow the Government's financial commitments for the coming year. For some weeks before the Estimates are presented, the Unofficials are not represented, sit in judgment on the financial requests of the various Government departments, we are unaware of the arguments brought forward for this or that item of expenditure, but eventually the decisions of this Committee are brought before us in the bald form in which they appear in the Estimates. It has been found desirable to appoint a small committee of two Officials and two Unofficials to assist the Honourable the Harbour Master with his requirements, and I have little doubt that other departments of the Gov-

ernment might benefit by unofficial assistance on a similar basis. I should like to be assured, that the items 21 to 28, and the new furnace and combustion chamber to Police Launch No. 5, also the new Launch for the Sanitary Department, appearing on page 28 of the Estimates, have been approved by this Committee.

Why Not?

I have often wondered whether it would be practicable for one of the Unofficials to sit with the Government Estimates Committee, there are eight of us and the work could be judiciously distributed. It certainly would be of substantial assistance in considering the Estimates, if we were aware of the arguments and reasons put forward by the various departments, in justification of their applications.

I will not deal with the question of sterling salaries, as this matter is in the hands of my Honourable Colleagues who represent the General Chamber of Commerce, but if the Colony is to be called upon to implement the Salaries Commission, then obviously the Colony is entitled to demand a state of high efficiency. I should like to draw Your Excellency's attention to Ordinance No. 2 of 1882 Section 2, under which Your Excellency in Council, with the approval of the Secretary of State, can dispense with the service of any Government servant, at any time after he has attained the age of 55. Now by the time this age is reached, at least 30 years service has been given—in most cases entirely in this Colony—I venture to suggest that by then the time has arrived, except in exceptional cases, for retirement on pension. Besides keeping the service in a state of high efficiency it ensures a continual stream of younger men into the responsible positions instead of as often happens, responsibility does not come until the recipient is already too far advanced into the groove of his predecessor. I as a member of this Council hope that this ancient Ordinance of the Colony is being adhered to and that each Government servant, as and when the age of 55 years is attained, has his dossier brought before Your Excellency in Executive Council for consideration.

Bound up with the question of the standard of high efficiency, is the question of inter-changeability of officers with other Colonies. This is a matter which has received the strong recommendation of a Royal Commission known as the Warren Fisher Report. One cannot help thinking that the Colony is benefiting by the following of this policy in the past, and I personally hope that it will receive a greater stimulus in the future, it is, however, necessary that a change of posts should not work financially to the detriment of either transferee.

Hong Kong and Canton.

This leads me on to the question, of whether it is not desirable to have a liaison officer or officers between Hong Kong and Canton, this Colony's interests are inextricably bound up with those of Canton, and an inter-change of officers between this Government and His Britannic Majesty's Consulate at Canton, should have beneficial results.

I note from the speech of the Honourable the Colonial Secretary, that it is anticipated that there will be a qualified Cadet Officer, available for the post of Assistant Attorney General in the Spring of next year. The Incorporated Law Society of Hong Kong view with apprehension the holding of any of the legal positions in this Colony by persons who have not been in active legal practice, and I desire to express the views of the Society to Your Excellency.

Before dealing with the Estimates in detail there are certain matters arising on the Reports to which I should like to draw attention.

In the Police Report we find an extraordinary increase in the value of property stolen, mostly connected with persons placed in a position of trust—a very disconcerting development.

Chinese and Health.

With the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services we have the voice calling in the wilderness, "why is the Chairman of the Sanitary Board a Cadet?" My personal view is that this position ought to be occupied by a person possessing technical knowledge. I fail to believe that a specialist possessing ordinary intelligence cannot adapt himself to the susceptibilities of the Chinese—when all said and done, times are changing rapidly, Chinese are demanding in their ordinary daily life, conditions of living in conformity with modern ideas of sanitation—Nauling is demanding the assistance of the world's experts in her public health work,

and I refuse to believe that the Chinese of this Colony do not wish for similar facilities.

Again we have the insistent demand for special facilities for the cure of tuberculosis, and I hope I am not disclosing anything that is confidential when I say, that the Committee which sat to advise on the site for the new Government Civil Hospital, asked that special provision should be made to deal with this all prevalent disease.

The promised Report of the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services has long been waited for—some day I presume we shall receive it—it may of course be, we shall find that in our present financial position we cannot afford it, but at least we shall know the worst.

The absence of plague is reassuring.

The Auditors' Report has already been referred to. It is, however, impossible for me to pass it over, without mentioning the Charter Collection of Pictures—a generous gift of great historical interest to this Colony. This matter was dealt with by me in the Legislative Council on December 30, 1927, when the then Honourable Colonial Secretary gave, in answer to questions put by me, a most emphatic undertaking for safe custody and preservation. I sincerely hope that every effort is being made, to get back any missing pictures from those who have purloined them.

Turning now to the Estimates, on page 5 there is a statement of Revenue for the past ten years. In items 3 Licences and Internal Revenue etc., is included the revenue derived from the Assessment Tax. The Honourable the Colonial Treasurer has courteously supplied me with the figures for the past ten years. In 1921 the rates collected amounted to \$2,390,838, and for the year 1930 \$4,208,277. With the amount of new building that has taken place in the past ten years, and the considerable rise in the value of property, I expected to find a bigger increase. I hope the assessors have been assiduous in their duties and that the returns reflect the correct rateable value of property in this Colony.

I am glad to see that the New Female Gaol has at last become a reality. It is difficult to understand how conditions have been allowed to remain as they have been, for so many years—conditions which I can only describe as disgraceful.

It is also pleasing to learn that a real start is going to be made with the New Gaol, when it will be possible to carry on our prison administration on modern lines. I hope it will be pressed on with until the new building is completed. My sympathies will always be with the Superintendent of Prisons and his Staff, in any troubles that may occur.

I am sure we shall all desire to meet the Superintendent of Prisons with the Public Works Committee on his return from the voyage of discovery to Malaya and Shanghai.

Secret Service Vote.

I notice on page 46 item 26 of the Estimates, that there is a proposed Saving in the secret service vote. I hope the amount asked for is sufficient, because I consider that in the difficult times through which we are passing, the secret service plays an important part.

The Hospital Authorities have an urgent claim on us, an early start must be made with the New Government Civil Hospital, a matter in which we have long neglected our duty.

The fact that a sum of \$50,000 is to be allocated to the first section of the new 100' Road between Causeway Bay and Ming Yuen Gardens, is a matter for congratulation. Our short sighted policy in this respect has held up the development of property right through Shaikwan, and the Government has lost much revenue thereby. I should like to see an even greater allocation.

University Grant.

I will now speak on the Education side of the Estimates.

I am glad to find that we are able to continue our grant in aid of \$350,000 to the University of Hong Kong. I venture to suggest that there is no way of giving to the Chinese what we believe to be the best of our civilisation, than through our University and our Schools, especially in Hong Kong where the student is able to study the Sciences of the West in his Eastern setting. I cannot do better than refer Your Excellency to the Report of the Economic Mission which on pages 104 to 107 and 126, deal with the cultural relations with China—this all important subject, but I would add this, that in my opinion Hong Kong is doing her duty in

this respect, and that it is up to the Home Authorities and public associations there, to make substantial contributions, as they stand to benefit greatly by the work of our University and our Schools.

I venture to suggest that the good work of our University has not yet been sufficiently recognised at home—grateful, as I am sure, the University is for the Boxer Indemnity contribution, but it should not stop there, because there are many other sources from which the University might reasonably expect assistance. I should like to have seen more than the sum of \$50,000 provided for the Kowloon British School. That institution carries on under great difficulties—it is an absolute necessity, and a new adequate building is badly needed. It caters for a section of the community which has a real and just claim on our funds and one which we should not overlook.

I see that the Honourable the Colonial Secretary refers to the good work done by the grant in aid schools and the desire of the Government to increase the present grants. The Diocesan Boys' School is one of them and naturally was happy in the idea that they would benefit from the Government's munificence—unfortunately the scheme as promulgated benefits them only to the extent of \$266 which I am sure was not intended by the Government.

In conclusion may I wish Your Excellency every good wish for the coming financial year and express the hope that it may be a successful and prosperous one and that at the conclusion we may find ourselves with substantial and satisfactory cash balances.

Colonial Secretary.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary said:—

In rising to reply to the criticisms of my Unofficial friends I should like first on behalf of the Government to thank them for their appreciation of the efforts which have been made to present them with the fullest possible information in the most readily accessible form, and for their general approval of the methods adopted to raise the additional revenue which they agree is necessary in order to balance the Budget.

The main criticism of the Budget is concerned with the question of the payment of sterling salaries at current rates of exchange, a subject with which Your Excellency proposes to deal. Apart from that, the speeches of my Unofficial friends may be said to confine themselves for the most part to matters of detail, which disclose a close scrutiny of our proposals and a sincere regret, which the Government shares, at seeing so many desirable works postponed to a future date. Leaving in Your Excellency's hands some of the more important items I shall now endeavour to the best of my ability to answer the various questions raised.

Petrol Not a Luxury.

Taking first the speech of the Honourable the Senior Member, attention is drawn to the danger of regarding petrol as a luxury. The Government does not so regard it and is not unmindful of the necessity for cheap transport. It does not however consider that the petrol tax has been unduly raised or that the cost of transport will be seriously affected thereby. The Hon. member and some of his colleagues have referred to the accounts provided for roads. The excellence of the Colony's roads is remarkable and we hope that it will still be possible to maintain a high standard with the funds provided. The suggestion that a road fund be created, which I read into the Honourable the Senior Member's speech, is open to serious objections, as all must know who have followed the history of the road fund in England.

Bearing in mind that Your Excellency will deal more particularly with the question of Civil Service Salaries which looms so large in the speeches of the Senior Unofficial Member and of the Representative of the Chamber of Commerce, I shall confine myself to remarking that my references to business firms were based on the only information then available to the Government and the information was derived from entirely reliable sources. I was particularly careful to qualify my remarks by the words "so far as the Government is aware." It must not be forgotten that business firms do not publish annual estimates and Blue Books, with details of the emoluments of all their employees, and the Government is for the most part dependent for its information on such details as the firms may

(Continued on Page 12.)

BUDGET DEBATE

(Continued from Page 11.)

choose to communicate. Business firms can hardly have been unaware that the Government would have welcomed information on any recent changes in the emoluments and methods of payment of their employees.

That Little "Tr." I would refer to only one other point on this subject. My honourable friend Mr. Mackie quotes the Treasurer as saying that payment of salaries at current rates will cause an additional tax on the revenues of the Colony of approximately one million dollars next year—additional that is over paying half at 1/6d. and half at current rate. But that figure will only apply if the average rate for the year is 1/4 or under. The figure must be reduced proportionately as the dollar rises.

Reverting, Sir, to the speech of the Honourable the Senior Member I share his regret that it has not been possible to publish the Retrenchment Report in time for this debate. The Government will give full consideration to his request that a statement of savings should accompany the Report.

The only question raised on the revenue side of the Budget is on certain items of Harbour Office Revenue. The estimates for 1931 were based on certain increases in the charges made, and there was a small over-estimate of the effect of these fees in the matter of Light Dues and Buoy Rent. The larger over-estimate in the item "Engagement and Discharge of seamen" is due to the fact that a full year's increase was allowed for, whereas the revision of the charges did not take effect till the 1st of August, 1931. Even so there was a considerable over-estimate. Allowance was in fact made for an estimated reduction in the amount of shipping using the port in 1931 and a further reduction may be expected in 1932 unless conditions in the shipping world improve.

The Government takes note of the wishes of Unofficial Members regarding the Cadet Service, the Senior Clerical and Accounting Staff and the Treasury and will give due weight to their recommendations.

Launch Expenditure.

The Government will, as desired, refer to the Special Committee on the adequacy of the Government launches the question of proceeding with the expenditure provided in the estimates for new launches and special repairs to launches. The increase in the estimate for fuel for the Harbour Department is due to increased cost. The Railway, which uses a different type of coal from that used in launches, is also paying more per ton for its coal but has been able to secure a fuel of better quality with which it hopes to be able to maintain its services without increased cost.

As regards the sum provided for the training of one Government Marine Surveyor the Government can only say that this system is forced on it by the fact that trained officers cannot be obtained in any cheaper way.

The preparation of a new Public Health and Buildings Ordinance is already in hand and will be pushed on with all possible speed. "Fire Regulations" regarding certain types of buildings have already been issued. The possibility of a further codification of "Fire Regulations" will be considered.

Tuberculosis Campaign. The Government shares the desire of my Honourable friends to see greater provision made for anti-tuberculosis work and the matter will not be forgotten when funds are available, but I need hardly remind Honourable Members that it will mean an increase in Personal Emoluments.

The Government associates itself with its Unofficial friends in their appreciation of the work of the St. John Ambulance Association and of the New Territories Medical Benevolent Society. The Honourable Mr. Braga suggests that a special grant be made to the Medical Benevolent Society. Full consideration will be given to any application which this Society may make for assistance.

Reference is made to the Railway estimates in the speeches of the Senior Unofficial member and of the Honourable Mr. Braga. The points raised have for the most part already been carefully considered by the Railway Department. Steel has not been adopted for rebuilding the body work of old coaches on account of expense and the waste of much material which can be rebuilt into wooden coaches but could not be utilized if

they were rebuilt of steel. The Honourable Mr. Braga's suggestions of last year were acted upon. The design of the coaches has been improved and they are built on tender. The Government is advised that it is more economical in the long run for the extensive repairs now required to certain locomotive boilers to be done by the expert locomotive builders in England, who have the exact machinery required. The question of whether a cheaper form of railway fencing could be adopted with advantage was referred to the Manager of the Railway who informs me that there is no cheaper form of fence which would be likely to prove satisfactory.

As regards the new Gaol the Superintendent is to be housed close to the Gaol and the question of moving the Police Training School to the same locality is already under consideration.

Drew a Blank!

No representations have so far reached the Government regarding the notice calling for tenders for the passenger and vehicles ferry. Any representations which may be received will be given full consideration.

The question of converting the 6 per cent. loan has already received consideration but no action is possible before the latter part of next year.

The Honourable Member who represents the Chamber of Commerce has restricted himself to two aspects of the Budget—Salaries and Harbour Dredging. I have already referred briefly to the Salaries question and as I understand, Your Excellency will also deal with the dredging of the harbour, it is only necessary for me to say in fairness to the Government, that the Wharf Company entered upon their project for a new wharf with full knowledge of the depth of water available and after a warning from the Government that it could not promise to undertake special dredging to provide access to that particular wharf for specially large vessels. The whole question will be reviewed when adequate data are available from the harbour survey. It is hoped that sufficient data will be available at an early date.

The Government, Sir, welcomes the suggestions of my Honourable friend the second Chinese member for improving the form of the Estimates. We are always aiming at such improvements and while I do not go so far as to say that we can adopt every one of his suggestions we can certainly go some way towards meeting his wishes. I do not agree with him in his objection to what he has termed "omnibus heads." The advantages to be gained by a reversion to the old system seem to me to be outweighed by the increase of clerical work involved.

Education Committee.

The Government will give serious consideration to the Honourable member's suggestion that a Committee be appointed to consider the general Education policy of the Government.

Turning to the comments of my Honourable friend Mr. Braga, in so far as I have not already dealt with them, I find that the first part of his speech deals largely with the vexed question of local recruitment. As Your Excellency is only too well aware the subject is one to which much time and thought have been given. The Government is in entire sympathy with the desire for the larger employment of local personnel. The matter is however one of considerable difficulty but I need not enlarge upon it as I understand Your Excellency proposes to refer to it at a later stage in our proceedings.

I should, however, perhaps, correct one misunderstanding which might result from the Honourable Member's remarks when he spoke on the increase in personnel of the junior clerical service of 46 clerks. As the footnotes to the estimates show, this is due to a transfer from the Statistical Department. Actually, there is a decrease of eleven posts, as I pointed out in my opening speech.

Lack of Funds.

My Honourable friend has favoured us with a long list of the pressing needs of Kowloon. A new Post Office and better postal facilities, improved police protection, additional typhoon signals, new fire appliances, a car park at Yuen-ni, increased staff and accommodation at Kowloon Hospital and additional bathing facilities. I think that without exception these matters have all been before the

Government in the recent past and several have actually been considered in connection with the present Estimates and have only been omitted for lack of funds. They will be re-considered as funds become available.

I regret that the Honourable member does not see eye to eye with the Government on the subject of public lighting. There are certain roads on which the Government considers there has been extravagance in lighting and it proposes to take action to correct it. The Honourable member's view shows how difficult it is to obtain unanimity in matters of retrenchment.

Free Trade Must Remain.

The Government takes note of the Honourable member's view regarding revenue from land sales and will consider his proposals when next year's estimates are being prepared, but I am afraid his suggestions for preferential tariffs for Hong Kong products is impracticable unless he is prepared to see a general customs tariff for Hong Kong by which reciprocity can be given. I doubt if he is prepared to travel so far from the traditional free trade policy of the Colony.

I am sure my Honourable friend the Director of Public Works will do his best to improve any corners on the Tai-po Road which may be obscured by brushwood, but I cannot offer any hope that the Honourable member can look forward to an early commencement of the Sai Kung Road. I do not think that the motorist can complain that he does not get a fair deal as regards roads in this Colony, and the Sai Kung Road must wait till we can recommence development on a more extended scale.

It has not been customary to publish the names of all Committees of Enquiry in the Gazette. The Government does, however, as a general rule make known the appointment of any Committees of public interest.

Matter Of Opinion!

The question of publishing lists of tenders and their tenders has been fully discussed and it is held to be contrary to the public interest to publish more than the name of the successful tenderer.

The Government greatly appreciates the continued interest of my Honourable friend the third Chinese member in all matters affecting the poorer classes of the community and particularly in the affairs of the New Territories and in Education. This interest is reflected in his remarks this afternoon. The Government will certainly look further into the question of facilities for the transport and marketing of New Territories products, and if it appears that a Committee is likely to be useful will readily appoint one. It would however prefer to explore the position further before coming to a decision on this point.

The Honourable member will I am sure appreciate the fact that I cannot supply him this afternoon with the Education statistics for which he asks. They will, however, be prepared and sent to him. The question of how far the Government should provide Secondary Education is, as the Honourable member points out, a controversial one. The Government has attempted to steer a middle course and while supporting private schools has in its own comparatively few schools endeavoured to achieve a high standard of education. It fully recognizes the admirable work done in the aided schools.

Shaokwan Road.

My Honourable friend, Mr. Bell, confines his attention for the most part to roads, and some of the remarks are dealt with in my replies to other members. He refers particularly to the Shaokwan road. The Government is anxious to see the uncompleted part of this road pressed to a conclusion. There is however much preliminary work and much rock cutting involved before rapid progress will be possible. Should the finances of the Colony improve the Government hopes to be able to allot further funds for this work at a later period of the year. With regard to my Honourable friend's comparison of the revenue from certain taxes with the expenditure on roads I should perhaps point out that he has omitted to deduct from the revenue the amount due for military contribution a matter of nearly \$167,000.

I pass, Sir, to the speech of our absent friend the Honourable the Senior European Member whose remarks, as is only to be expected from one so keenly interested in public affairs, range over a wide field. His suggestion that an Unofficial member should be present at the preliminary discussions on the Budget is in the opinion of

the Government neither practicable nor necessary. The Government must take the responsibility of presenting the Budget as a whole. It endeavours to afford full information to Unofficial Members when the Budget is presented, and is ready at all times to supplement that information to the best of its power, should there be any points on which unofficial members may desire more detailed knowledge.

The question of the age of retirement to which my Honourable friend refers is already under reference to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Interchangeability of officers in the Colonial Service is a matter which is receiving much attention at Home and is one with which the Government has every sympathy, but it is fraught with considerable difficulties, not the least of which is the necessity for a knowledge of the local vernacular in all except the senior posts of the service. An interchange of officers between the Colonial Government Service and the Consular Service under the Foreign Office is fraught with even greater difficulties, but this, too, has recently been under consideration.

The Government notes the views of the Incorporated Law Society of Hong Kong regarding the qualifications for certain legal posts and trusts their apprehension will prove unfounded.

Sanitary Board.

Further consideration of the question of the future constitution of the Sanitary Board awaits the return from leave of the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services.

My Honourable friend refers to the valuable bequest known as the Chater collection of pictures. This collection was handed over with a somewhat inadequate catalogue, but it has been found possible to trace and identify every item said to have been handed over except one small portfolio. There is no reason to suppose anyone "purloined" the portfolio, and there is nothing in the Auditor's report to justify the suspicions engendered by the Honourable member's use of the word "purloined." Careful search is being made for it and I have every hope that it may yet be traced.

As regards the Assessment of the Colony the Honourable member will be aware from my opening speech that we propose to strengthen the Assessment Department.

Jail Accommodation.

I note that the Honourable member welcomes the improved prison accommodation and presses for the commencement of the new hospital and the new Kowloon British School. The Government entirely agrees with the Honourable member as to the need for these new buildings and hopes to undertake them as soon as our finances permit.

I cannot close, Sir, without thanking Honourable members for the kind reception which they have given to the Budget as a whole with the one exception of the Civil Service Salaries, and for the constructive character of most of their criticisms. I should also like to take this opportunity of thanking the Treasurer and his staff of my own office for the very able assistance they have so cheerfully rendered in the task of preparing this Budget.

H.E. The Governor.

His Excellency the Governor said:—

In the first place I wish to congratulate my Honourable Friend the Colonial Secretary for his able and lucid speech introducing the Budget, and to thank both him and his officers for the great help which they have given me in the final preparation of it. I also thank Honourable Members for giving it such careful consideration, and for their helpful comments and criticism. On the whole I am grateful that the criticism has not been more severe.

This Budget, like many other budgets, has both its gratifying and its disappointing aspects. It may be regarded as gratifying in that it clearly indicates the financial strength of the Colony, a strength which is probably unequalled in any part of the British Empire to-day. The estimate of revenue for 1932 exceeds in dollars by a very considerable sum that of any preceding year, and I think that it must be admitted that this has been achieved without any excessive or oppressive taxation. It has been stated—"ad nauseam"—perhaps that this Colony is comparatively lightly taxed. It has been necessary to increase taxation, but I think I am right in saying that more than one Honourable Member of this Council has public-

ly admitted that taxation is still reasonably light. I had hoped that further taxation might have been avoided, but owing to our sterling commitments and the low dollar, it has been unavoidable. At the same time, I have endeavoured to spread the additional taxation as fairly as possible, to restrict it on the whole to luxuries, and to avoid raising the essential cost of living by any further increase in the assessment tax. A number of fees have been revised in view of the fall in the dollar, but I think that the revised fees are entirely reasonable, and I am greatly indebted to the Colonial Treasurer for the care and trouble that he has taken in this revision. I also take this opportunity of congratulating the Treasurer on the very able and lucid memorandum which he has drawn up in connection with the Estimates. A new feature has been introduced in the shape of taxation based on sterling in the case of liquor and tobacco duties. Should the dollar average a higher figure than a shilling for 1932, the dollar estimate under these heads will of course be reduced, but this will be far more than compensated for by a reduction in the dollar equivalent of our sterling commitments.

Disappointing Feature.

The disappointing feature of the Budget is that, in spite of the increase in revenue, it has not been possible to provide as much as I should have liked for special services. This of course is largely due to the fact that our sterling commitments have had to be calculated on the basis of a shilling dollar. I trust however to be able to show that provision has been made for a number of improvements and for further progress in the forthcoming year. Should the dollar rise, the position will be more favourable, and I hope in that event to explore possible to trace and identify every item said to have been handed over except one small portfolio. There is no reason to suppose anyone "purloined" the portfolio, and there is nothing in the Auditor's report to justify the suspicions engendered by the Honourable member's use of the word "purloined." Careful search is being made for it and I have every hope that it may yet be traced.

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In the first place I wish to congratulate my Honourable Friend the Colonial Secretary for his able and lucid speech introducing the Budget, and to thank both him and his officers for the great help which they have given me in the final preparation of it. I also thank Honourable Members for giving it such careful consideration, and for their helpful comments and criticism. On the whole I am grateful that the criticism has not been more severe.

This Budget, like many other budgets, has both its gratifying and its disappointing aspects. It may be regarded as gratifying in that it clearly indicates the financial strength of the Colony, a strength which is probably unequalled in any part of the British Empire to-day. The estimate of revenue for 1932 exceeds in dollars by a very considerable sum that of any preceding year, and I think that it must be admitted that this has been achieved without any excessive or oppressive taxation. It has been stated—"ad nauseam"—perhaps that this Colony is comparatively lightly taxed. It has been necessary to increase taxation, but I think I am right in saying that more than one Honourable Member of this Council has public-

ly admitted that taxation is still reasonably light. I had hoped that further taxation might have been avoided, but owing to our sterling commitments and the low dollar, it has been unavoidable. At the same time, I have endeavoured to spread the additional taxation as fairly as possible, to restrict it on the whole to luxuries, and to avoid raising the essential cost of living by any further increase in the assessment tax. A number of fees have been revised in view of the fall in the dollar, but I think that the revised fees are entirely reasonable, and I am greatly indebted to the Colonial Treasurer for the care and trouble that he has taken in this revision. I also take this opportunity of congratulating the Treasurer on the very able and lucid memorandum which he has drawn up in connection with the Estimates. A new feature has been introduced in the shape of taxation based on sterling in the case of liquor and tobacco duties. Should the dollar average a higher figure than a shilling for 1932, the dollar estimate under these heads will of course be reduced, but this will be far more than compensated for by a reduction in the dollar equivalent of our sterling commitments.

Disappointing Feature.

The disappointing feature of the Budget is that, in spite of the increase in revenue, it has not been possible to provide as much as I should have liked for special services. This of course is largely due to the fact that our sterling commitments have had to be calculated on the basis of a shilling dollar. I trust however to be able to show that provision has been made for a number of improvements and for further progress in the forthcoming year. Should the dollar rise, the position will be more favourable, and I hope in that event to explore possible to trace and identify every item said to have been handed over except one small portfolio. There is no reason to suppose anyone "purloined" the portfolio, and there is nothing in the Auditor's report to justify the suspicions engendered by the Honourable member's use of the word "purloined." Careful search is being made for it and I have every hope that it may yet be traced.

As regards the Assessment of the Colony the Honourable member will be aware from my opening speech that we propose to strengthen the Assessment Department.

Jail Accommodation.

I note that the Honourable member welcomes the improved prison accommodation and presses for the commencement of the new hospital and the new Kowloon British School. The Government entirely agrees with the Honourable member as to the need for these new buildings and hopes to undertake them as soon as our finances permit.

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of the low dollar, while many reductions have only taken place during the course of this year.—some indeed only quite recently, months after the reduction of the dollar equivalent of Government sterling salaries had been adopted. Moreover I believe that I am right in saying that these reductions reached as high a figure as 17 per cent. These facts came within the knowledge of the Secretary of State, both from some of the local people affected and from others' representations being made in the House of Commons on the subject. The Secretary of State after full consideration is of opinion that the fall in exchange having been arrested and the Colony having had a sufficient interval in which to adjust its budgetary arrangements to meet the new conditions, a period should now be set to the sacrifice which has been demanded from officers on sterling salaries. He has decided therefore that the present reductions cannot be continued beyond the present year, and that salaries should be paid at the current rate of exchange, as from January 1, 1932, subject to a minimum rate of 1/- to the dollar and a maximum rate of 2/- to the dollar, and he has issued instructions to this effect. Government is unable therefore to accept the amendment put forward.

Reductions in Personnel.

As Honourable Members are aware, I appointed a Retrenchment Commission, which has reported. Their report will probably be made available after it has, together with the considered views of this Government, been perused by the Secretary of State. As stated by the Colonial Secretary, certain reductions in personnel have been made as a result of the Commission's report, though Government has not been able to go quite so far as it hoped. It would be a mistake to reduce staff too quickly and find that the loss of efficiency proved too great. It would moreover be a great disadvantage to the Colony to reduce our staff too drastically, and so get the Colony a bad name which would damage its chance of successful recruiting in the future. When I came here, I was impressed by the large number of European staff, particularly in the subordinate grades. Steps are being taken to replace some of these gradually by local officers, though it is a step which must be taken with caution. Government is ready to give local recruits every chance, and it will be for them to prove that such confidence is not misplaced. This policy can only be followed if local recruits prove that they possess the necessary integrity and efficiency. If they fail to do this, they and the Colony cannot complain if we have to revert to the system which has obtained hitherto. The matter lies in their hands.

Health Needs.

The needs of the Colony in health and medical matters still loom large, and I am glad that I have been able to make some additional provision in this department. Malaria is not so great a scourge in this Colony as it is in many others, but it is showing a tendency to increase, and there is no doubt that steps must be taken to prevent this. I trust that my Honourable Friend the Acting Director of Medical and Sanitary Services will agree with me when I say that, generally speaking, malaria can be eradicated almost anywhere, provided that sufficient funds are available for the purpose. In Malaya, where the measures taken have proved very successful, a great deal of money has been spent, but the cost of permanent works in this Colony, owing to the nature of its formation, will be relatively much higher. In Malaya ravines, or nullahs as they are called here, can be trained at a cost of more reasonable cost, owing to the nature of the country, and there being a sparsity of rocks, scarcely have been contemplated. Here, where the nullahs in many cases consist of solid rock, the cost of training them and providing for anti-malarial drainage work will be much higher. A sum of \$150,000 say therefore that the statement of my Honourable Friend, the Senior Unofficial Member, that this balance of the Budget has been achieved by the Colony of very necessary public works and increasing taxation is scarcely an accurate representation of the position. While I appreciate that many in the Colony have suffered financially from the depression, it is well known that this is not universally the case, nor has the recent rise of the dollar been universally welcomed. Certain sterling salaries have been consistently paid at current rates of exchange, and pace my Hon. friend Mr. Paterson certain directors' fees have been increased and in some cases doubled because

of the work with greater celerity than would otherwise be the case.

Infant Welfare.

I have always been interested in infant welfare, and when I came here I was disappointed to find so little provision made for it. I have made provision in the forthcoming year for a centre to be established on the island, with a fully medical officer in charge and a staff. In the first instance, it is proposed to rent premises, but if it proves a success, it may be desirable eventually to build an institution of our own. The St. John Ambulance Brigade has done good work in the New Territories in relation both to adults and children, and the Brigade is anxious to start an infant welfare centre there. Steps have been taken with a view to carrying out this proposal, but I consider that it is the duty of Government to provide a centre in Kowloon, if possible in 1933, similar to that which it is proposed to establish on the island.

V. D. Clinics.

In the matter of venereal disease clinics, here again we are somewhat behind hand. A health officer has been appointed who is specialist in this disease, and he has made certain recommendations. As Honourable Members are probably aware, there is a clinic for both men and women at the Government Civil Hospital, while the Tan Yik Hospital provides a clinic for women. This however is not enough, and it is proposed to establish a clinic in Kowloon. I consider it better to have it more in the centre of the town than the hospital is, and here again premises will be rented in the first place, to enable us to see what success is achieved. In addition to this, further special equipment is being provided for, in accordance with the recommendations of the health officer.

In this connection it is perhaps desirable that I should refer to the Government policy in relation to brothels. Most countries have now adopted the policy of the abolition of recognised houses, but the problem in Hong Kong is more difficult than in most other places. Here we have an enormous proportion of illiterate people who fail to appreciate the health side of the question, and we have an enormous floating population. Singapore has definitely closed these houses, and in some respects the problem there may be said to approximate to that in Hong Kong more closely than does that in Western countries. But here the problem is even greater than it is in Singapore, owing to the enormous floating population. This question has engaged my attention, not only since I came here, but in Malaya, and there is no doubt that it is a most difficult problem to solve. I have had correspondence with the Secretary of State on the matter and propose to ask for a further report on the effect on the abolition in Singapore. I may then be in a position to take the matter further, but it is probable that it will be best to await the report of the League of Nations Commission which visited the Colony a few months ago, and devoted some attention to this question.

Toll Of Consumption.

No one can deplore more than I do the terrible toll taken in this Colony by tuberculosis. At the same time I confess to grave doubts whether sanatoria would achieve as much as many people think. Experience has shown, more particularly in the East, that tubercular patients as a rule only come to such institutions when the disease is so far advanced that little or nothing can be done for them. It is hoped that propaganda in the shape of pamphlets and health lectures may achieve something but I feel convinced that the dread disease will never be eradicated or even reduced to very small dimensions in this Colony except by the carrying out of extensive town improvement and reconstruction schemes with a view to the amelioration of housing conditions which are very bad indeed in this Colony and which are undoubtedly the main cause of tuberculosis.

Education of Outdoors.

Some increased benefits have been provided for in the matter of

(Continued on Page 13.)

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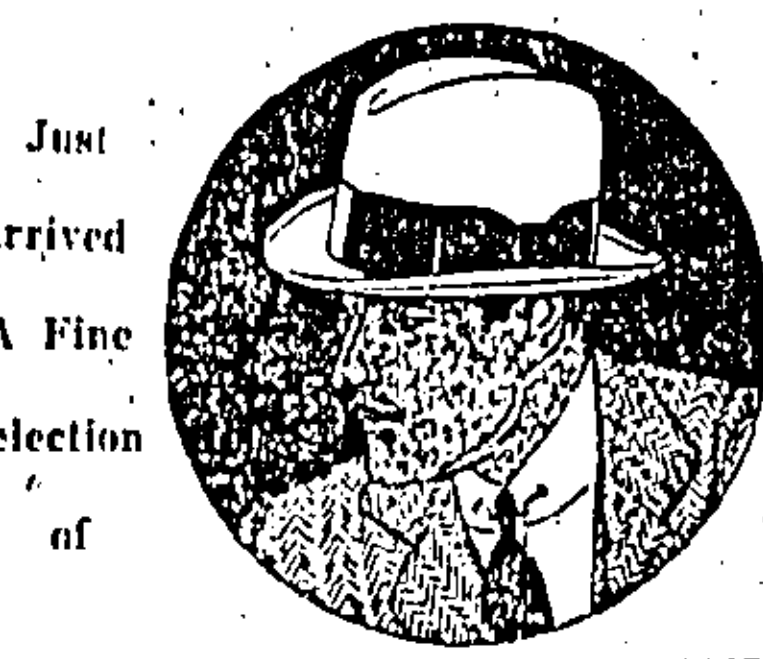
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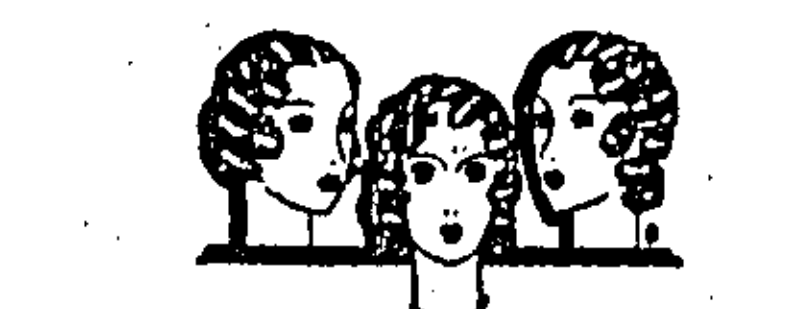
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BUDGET DEBATE

(Continued from Page 12.)

education. The grants in aid will be increased and are to be based on a flat rate, which will give some relief of various schools, though some will benefit but little. The existing fees in Government schools are certainly on the low side, and it has been suggested that they should be raised in order to contribute a more equitable share to educational costs. It has also been suggested that there should be a distinction between the fees paid by scholars who are domiciled in the Colony and those paid by scholars coming from China. After due consideration, Government is not prepared to agree to this. From many points of view, which I need not amplify at the present moment, it is desirable to encourage educational and cultural relations with China, and it would therefore be a retrograde step to discourage in any way scholars coming from that country to Hong Kong for education.

I appointed a Committee to consider certain aspects of technical education, and their report will shortly be laid on the table. As a result of their recommendations, it is proposed to open a Junior Technical School, which it is hoped will be in operation by the middle of next year. The necessary provision has been made in the Estimates. This will cater for a particular class of mechanic, and will, it is hoped, help to supply a very necessary demand which hitherto has been unfulfilled.

Another Committee which was appointed by me was the Committee to deal with the question of juvenile courts. It has reported, its report has been laid on the table and its recommendations are now being considered by Government. I need only say at present that, generally speaking, they appear to me eminently sound, and Government proposes generally to give effect to them.

Backward Villages.

In my visits to the Districts North and South, I found that several growing villages were very backward in the matter of health and sanitation, particularly the village of Tsun Wan, and I considered it necessary to make an effort to improve matters. I discussed the condition of Tsun Wan with the elders, and they generally agreed with my proposals, which amounted to building a market on the higher levels and gradually inducing the inhabitants by exchanges of land to move their village to more sanitary sites round the market. Provision of \$8,000 has been made in the Estimates for a new market and site preparation. I definitely feel that we have not done enough for the health and sanitation of these villages. I think the time has almost come to bring certain villages, only two or three in number at present, with the purview of the Assessment Ordinance, and it is probable that in 1933 a reasonable assessment rate will be levied, the proceeds of which will be devoted to improving conditions.

I am in entire accord with the views expressed by my Hon. friends Dr. Kotewall and Dr. Tai as to the desirability of increasing production from the N. T. but I am inclined to think that this would be best achieved by further inculcating the principles of Co-operation among the agriculturists.

The question of harbour improvement is a very important one to this port, and a hydrographic survey is at present in progress with a view to enabling Government to decide what works in respect of dredging and so on are necessary to give adequate facilities to the port. A special officer, who returned from leave last June, is engaged on the work. There was some delay owing to typhoons but up to date some 715 acres have been surveyed leaving upwards of 10,000 acres to be dealt with. Arrangements are being made to employ an additional officer so as to expedite the completion of the work. I appreciate however that it may be necessary to carry out more expensive dredging before this survey is completed and I propose to consult the Harbour Advisory Committee on the subject.

An Expensive Department.
The Government Marine Surveyors' Department is undoubtedly an expensive one, and it will be necessary when a favourable opportunity arises to consider the revision of fees for services rendered with a view to recovering a greater proportion of the costs of the department. I do not consider it desirable however to raise these fees during the period of depression which the shipping industry is at present undergoing.

Some reductions have been made in the Police Force, partly as a result of the recommendations of the Retrenchment Commission, but it is hoped that this will not reduce the efficiency of the Force. The principle which has largely been followed is to meet a reduction of staff by increased mobility. If it proves that this materially reduces the efficiency of the Force, the question of a restoration of some of the personnel will be considered.

It will be noticed that the grant to the Hong Kong University is the same as that made this year. It is quite obvious that it is unable to carry on, even on the present basis, without this help, and it is unthinkable that the Colony should allow its University to lose its place for want of that necessary support.

As a result of the considerable increase in the revenue, the military contribution has naturally largely increased in dollar figures, but it must be remembered that the cost of the garrison is mainly incurred on a sterling basis, and our contribution in sterling still falls very far short of the total cost.

Correspondence has been continued with the Secretary of State in regard to certain principles regulating this contribution. These principles include that of calculating the contribution on the net revenue of quasi-industrial undertakings, such as wireless telegraphy, and the rate for the annual percentage allowance on the capital expenditure paid for from current revenue on such undertakings as railways, telephones and water supplies. The question of excluding all reimbursements from the calculation is also being considered. I am hopeful that we shall obtain some concession in the matter. When I have received the final decision of the Secretary of State I will ask for his sanction to publish the whole correspondence.

Under Public Works—Recurrent, when originally balancing the Budget, I found it necessary to curtail certain maintenance votes. With the increased taxation however it has been found possible to reinstate these to a large extent. As the Colonial Secretary has stated, we have hitherto maintained a high standard of roads in this Colony, and it would be deplorable to allow them to deteriorate. I hope to be able to allot further funds for maintenance later in the year should this prove necessary.

The Public Works Extraordinary programmes is admittedly not a large one, but certain works are being provided for out of loans. The questions of a new Government Civil Hospital, Mental Hospital and Infectious Diseases Hospital have for the moment been deferred, but I hope to take them up in the near future. A site on the Pokfulam Road more suitable for nearly every point of view has been decided upon for the new Government Civil Hospital. A site at Kennedy Town was suggested for the new Infectious Diseases Hospital but I feel strongly that the city will develop in this direction and that such a scheme would seriously interfere with that development. I suggested Green Island as a better site from every point of view and this has been accepted by my advisers and those leaders of the Chinese community whom I have consulted. I have had with great regret to postpone the further extension to the Government Hospital at Kowloon, which is in urgent need of such extension, but I hope to make provision for proceeding with this in 1933. Meanwhile the block intended for a maternity hospital there is approaching completion.

In view however of the increased demand for accommodation for general cases it is almost certain that this new block will be used mainly for such cases pending the erection of another ward. I consider that a further extension to this hospital is one of the most urgent needs of the Colony and if our financial position should prove to be as good as I anticipate at the end of the first quarter of next year I propose to consider the question of special provision for the purpose.

I take this opportunity of assuring my Honourable Friend Mr. Braga who has made such an eloquent appeal on behalf of Kowloon, that its interests will not be overlooked. I would point out that, even regarding the new Female Prison at Lai-chikok as a partnership institution, as indeed it is, the amount provided for Public Works Extraordinary is divided almost equally be-

tween the Island and the mainland.

Final provision is made for the completion of the new Female Prison. This work is long overdue, and will, when completed early next year, greatly alleviate the present state of things.

Loan Works in 1932.

Loan works have been adequately dealt with by the Colonial Secretary. It is estimated that a sum of nearly \$2,000,000 will be expended on loan works in the forthcoming year. In the first instance, this expenditure will be met from surplus balances, but it may be necessary to raise a loan towards the latter part of the year. In fact it is almost certain that this will be done as apart from other considerations Government fully appreciates the desirability of converting the 6 per cent. Public Works Loan to one bearing a lower rate of interest.

In reply to Sir Shou-sun Chow's query regarding the report of the Clegg Commission on the Currency question I am unable to say definitely when it will be published but it will almost certainly be in the near future. I am subject to the Secretary of State's instructions in the matter.

Confidence in Future.

I thank the Unofficial Members for their renewed assurance of their wholehearted support. I on my side undertake, so long as I hold my present post, to work wholeheartedly for the welfare and prosperity of the Colony; and, so long as I do this, I feel confident that I shall always receive that support.

The Colony has in its history passed through dark days, but has emerged successfully. It cannot hope entirely to escape such days in future. Clouds at times gather round us, and indeed have done so during the past months, but the Colony has succeeded in maintaining its friendly relations with all parties, and I trust that it will always succeed in doing so. With the continued co-operation of all classes of the community, I feel confident that this hope will be realised.

KAU SING IN
TYPHOON.

(Continued from Page 10.)

4.50 p.m.—Hove up, patrolling.
5.10 p.m.—Dropped anchor, vessel not steering.
5.30 p.m.—No. 8 Signal hoisted.
6 p.m.—Hove up, proceeded to Westward.
6.40 p.m.—Proceeding to Western end of harbour.
7.30 p.m.—No junks or cargo boats called for assistance although offered.
8.10 p.m.—Anchored Stonecutters Island. Mag. from H. M. noted. Watch set. Weather heavy squalls of wind and rain.
September 3.
01.00—Watch on duty.
01.30—Typhoon signal lowered.
04.00—Harbour cruising completed.
04.55—Moored to buoy. Rang off engines.
Typhoon orders for Kau Sing.—
1. During the Typhoon Season (limits to be determined by the Harbour Master) the Kau Sing will lie under banked fires with 10 lbs. steam in each boiler.
On No. 1 Typhoon Signal being hoisted, steam is to be raised immediately for "Full Speed"—the Tug still remaining at her buoy. The Master will repair on board and remain on board until such time as all fear of a typhoon striking the Colony has passed.
Anchor watch is to be kept continuously. Should No. 1 Signal be hoisted during the hours that the Harbour Office is open for business, the Master may perform duties in that office, but should repair on board the Kau Sing as soon as the Harbour Office closes.
2. On any of the Black Typhoon Signals or their equivalent lights being hoisted the Kau Sing will slip from her buoy and proceed down the Southern Fairway as far as Green Island and return up harbour through the General Fairway picking up any junks or sampans that have not already taken shelter and towing them to Typhoon Shelter. The Kau Sing will then proceed to the Eastward as far as North Point and tow all junks etc. requiring assistance to Typhoon Shelter. While performing this duty she will display at the mast

By Day: The Red Ensign.
By Night: Three all round lights, Green—Red—Green—hoisted vertically—six feet apart.

In view of the strong wind which will prevail proper arrangement of guilding hoisting stays to be fitted.

Ordinary charges will be made to craft so towed to shelter.

3. When this duty has been completed and all harbour craft are in safe shelter—the Rescue Tug will proceed at the discretion of the Master to an anchorage. The Master so far as he is able will select a position so as to have a good general view of the harbour. Anchor buoy should be used.

4. In the event of a Typhoon striking the Colony the Master will, as soon as practicable, either weigh or slip his anchor and proceed to patrol the harbour rendering assistance generally.

5. When rescue work essential to the saving of life has been completed in the harbour and its vicinity, the Tug will then proceed to the assistance of the "Fishing Fleet" at sea—information as to its whereabouts being obtained via the Harbour Office from Shaikwan, Aberdeen and Cheung Chau.

6. Any time, during which, by

reason of bad weather communication with the shore is not possible, a continuous watch is to be kept on the W/T and Wireless Telephone through which all available information in regard to craft in distress will be communicated to the Kau Sing from the Harbour Office.

7. The master of the Rescue Tug is to bear in mind that the paramount duty of the Kau Sing is to save life, and he should remain under way until all harbour craft are in positions of safety, and should get under way again as soon as he considers that weather conditions allow him to render aid.

Notice to Mariners, special typhoon signals of distress for Hong Kong Harbour.—

Notice is hereby given that in the event of a typhoon striking the Colony of Hong Kong, with the possibility of several ships being in peril at the same time, the Master of any craft within the harbour, or in its vicinity, whose position or circumstances are such that life is in immediate danger, should hoist one black ball at the mast head or fire rockets at intervals in order to call attention to her need for immediate assistance.

These signals will act as a guide to the Master of the Rescue Tug, but should not be displayed unless life is in imminent peril.

Overland China Mail.

A WHOLE WEEK'S NEWSPAPERS IN ONE.

Nine cases were on the calendar for the October Assizes, which opened in the Supreme Court on October 19, when the Puisne Judge sentenced Guilherme Guimaraes to twelve months' hard labour, on a charge of larceny of a considerable sum of money by a trick, to which prisoner pleaded guilty. Mr. Leo d'Almada, junior, for the defence, made a moving plea for leniency. The Judge also passed sentence of four years' hard labour on a Chinese man who admitted throwing corrosive acid at a Shanghai woman. Several of the cases were dealt with in quick succession, the prisoners all pleading guilty. A detailed account of the proceedings is chronicled in the OVERLAND CHINA MAIL.

Recipients of decorations at the Birthday Honours were duly invested by H.E. the Governor (Sir William Peel, K.C.M.G., K.B.E.) at Government House, on October 19. Five well-known members of the community, including Major H. B. L. Dowbiggin and Sergeant-Major R. J. Everest, both of the Volunteer Defence Corps, were decorated. The OVERLAND CHINA MAIL contains a full report.

The discovery by H.M.S. Stormcloud recently, of the mast of the wreck of the s.s. Irene as being visible in Blas Bay for just over four years, recalls a stirring episode of modern piratical history of China. The s.s. Irene, owned by the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, was seized by pirates, masquerading as passengers on the morning of October 19, 1927, while on a voyage from Shanghai to Amoy. A detailed report is chronicled in the OVERLAND CHINA MAIL.

Hong Kong and Shanghai Interport Lawn Bowlers dined in the Peninsula Hotel on October 17, when Shanghai's splendid victory was praised. Mr. A. O. Brawn, President of the Hong Kong Lawn Bowls Association, in a happy speech, recalled the history of bowls, saying that it started in Hong Kong thirty years ago. The speaker dwelt on the different Clubs' activities and expressed the hope that the Chinese would take the game up. A full account of the events is chronicled in the OVERLAND CHINA MAIL.

Much interest is being centred in a case heard by the First Magistrate in the local Police Court, in which Mrs. I. Gladstone is summoning her husband, Mr. A. F. Gladstone, for maintenance and legal custody of the two children. A full account is recorded in the OVERLAND CHINA MAIL.

Extensive alterations, commenced early in May this year, and expected to be completed by Christmas time, will give the present Hong Kong Hotel building a remarkable appearance, with a neat modernistic touch. The alterations were carried out with the main idea of better lighting in the lounge and dining rooms, coolness, and more air. The OVERLAND CHINA MAIL carries a detailed account.

Sport of every description, including the Interport cricket trials, is fully dealt with in the OVERLAND CHINA MAIL.

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The China Mail.

ESTABLISHED 1845.

HONG KONG, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1931.

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If you married a man whose mother made all his decisions for him?

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IT'S THE LAUGH HIT OF THE YEAR!

In the cast: ELLIOTT NUGENT, BETTY GUMPHSON, JEAN ARTHUR, Tully Marshall, J. C. Nagata, Allison Shipworth. Produced by Carl Laemmle. Directed by Victor Heiser. From the play "Apron Strings" by Doreen Barth. Produced by Carl Laemmle, Jr.

THE PERSON NOBODY HAS MET.

The Man in the Street.

"Though all of us talk glibly of the Man in the Street, none of us can conjure up a reliable picture of him," writes "T.K." in the Birmingham Post.

"We can make a fair attempt at visualising the Man behind the Scenes, the man of the Moment, the Man on the Spot, the Man who Matters, the Man at the Wheel, or even the Man who Missed the Tide, but the indefinite variety of the Man in the Street baffles us. Yet his title implies that any of us can meet him any day, anywhere.

"Some years ago I listened to a rather bumptious youth—just promoted in the Government office where he worked, and in consequence pretty high in his own esteem—hold forth in this strain: 'One thing I'd dearly like to do is to buttonhole the Man in the Street, and have a real, good chat with him. Get to know how the way of the world appeared to him, what his ideas and his ideals, if any, are; what he thought of the whole caboodle called life!'

"The fact that the would-be superior one was ridiculed into temporary silence by a young girl who queried, 'So you haven't started talking to yourself yet, Mr. Smith?' convinced him merely that it is not always possible to have the last effective word. His type certainly visualises the Man in the Street as groping blindly in the dark, holding views that are never expressed because nobody has the courage to stop him and find out what are his views.

"The only thing of which we are all confident is that he is a person on whom we may look down on those occasions when we remember his existence at all. He doesn't count, except by the dozen or the hundred. He suffers the slings and arrows of grandmotherly legislation because he is in the herd which has no leader. He is that lonely soul—one in crowd where there are no mixers. He carries no weight because his fellows won't mount the scale in his company, and alone he is ignored.

"When some more than ordinarily stupid or restrictive piece of legislation is being discussed it is usual to say: 'The Man in the Street will never stand it.' But even the speaker merely means that the Man in the Street wouldn't stand it if he were worth his salt.

"We know very well that he will stand it, just as he has stood it down the centuries. Considering his dumb acceptance of whatever comes his way, he has no option but to stand it. We know that he is a poor reed on which to rely: he suffers in silence because he does not know how to become vocal. If he did he wouldn't be in the street! "The real truth is that none of us cares a jot as to what he thinks or feels or tolerates. Indeed, I have more than a suspicion that the Man in the Street has no existence outside the imagination, that he is a mere bogey dressed up to suit the occasion."

M. Mitkevitch, member of the Russian Academy of Sciences, is taking part in the centenary celebrations of Faraday's discovery of electro-magnetic induction.

THE ELECTRIC CHAIR FORTY YEARS AGO.

The First Execution.

The United States has been "celebrating" the fortieth anniversary of the first execution by the electric chair.

Great indignation was expressed by the London papers of the nineties at the news that William Kemmler, condemned for killing a woman with an axe, had been executed by this new method. "The guillotine and the hangman's rope do not compare in cold-blooded barbarism with the chair," declared the Daily Chronicle, while the "Standard" predicted that the "execution will send a thrill of indignation throughout the civilised world," and added that the "scene may be described as a disgrace to our common humanity."

In the United States, too, there was bitter opposition. The legal battle fought over the condemnation of Kemmler reached the United States Supreme Court, where the sentence was sustained. Papers were vehement in their denunciations of the method of execution since adopted by many states as the most humane means of capital punishment. Electrical companies opposed it, for they feared that the advertisement of the deadly power of "chained lightning"—as electricity, then in its infancy, was called—would seriously handicap its development. Newspaper reporters were not allowed to be present at the first execution.

The electric chair then used was burned during Auburn Prison's first riot on July 28, 1929.

DEAN INGE DEFINES THE HAPPY MAN.

The eighteenth conference of the Modern Churchmen's Union was opened at Oxford recently by the Dean of St. Paul's, whose presidential address was on the subject of "Humanism, Pagan and Christian." Dean Inge referred to an experiment which Livingstone made in order to compare Greek with modern values.

"A lecture class," he said, "was asked to write down four wishes in order of preference. The famous Greek Skolion chooses:

- "1. Health.
- "2. Good looks.
- "3. Wealth honestly come by.
- "4. To be young with one's friends.

"The modern class chose in order of plurality of votes:

- "1. Health.
- "2. Spiritual or moral excellence.
- "3. Friendship or domestic happiness.
- "4. Intellectual excellence.
- "5. Contentment.
- "6. Artistic pleasures.
- "7. Physical excellence.
- "8. Success.
- "9. Hard work.
- "10. Travel.
- "11. Wealth.

"The low position of wealth sounds juvenile or insincere, but in the comparative indifference to good looks we have a genuine difference from the Greeks. But would a class of girls have voted so?

"We have here a rather pleasing picture of a happy, healthy human being, with both feet planted firmly on the earth, with few illusions, and a clear, sane intellect content to make the best of the life that is

M. BRIAND'S "DOUBLE."

A Minister Who Was Nearly Hanged.

How he was once nearly hanged because of his resemblance to M. Briand, the French Foreign Minister, was described by the Rev. D. MacFadyen, a Letchworth Congregational minister, in an address at the conference of the World Alliance for International Friendship through the churches, at Cambridge.

So striking is the resemblance, that some of the French delegation apparently thought that M. Briand had suddenly decided to come to Cambridge to address the conference.

"I am not M. Briand," Mr. MacFadyen explained, "but I have often been mistaken for him when visiting the Continent. On one occasion at Nuremberg my resemblance nearly cost me my life."

Describing the incident in an interview afterwards, Mr. MacFadyen said he was sitting in a beer garden with some English friends when he noticed that some of the people around seemed to be eyeing him with disfavour.

"Suddenly the keeper of the beer garden approached one of my friends, and pointing to me said: 'Is that M. Briand?' My friend reassured him, and the innkeeper replied: 'It is just as well. Every-one here thought he was M. Briand and wanted to hang him.'"

"That is not the only time I have been mistaken for M. Briand. In Vienna I noticed people in the streets nudging their friends and saying, 'Look, there is M. Briand.' Once in Italy a girl sketched me and then came up and said, 'Please autograph this sketch, M. Briand.' I autographed the sketch in my own name. She must have been disappointed.

"On the whole my distinguished double causes me a lot of trouble, but the resemblance has one advantage—in French hotels waiters give me the attention due to the Foreign Minister, and I don't see why I should always at once disillusion them."

Mr. David L. Evans, Penylan Road, Cardiff, retired draper, left estate of the gross value of £27,513, with net personally £22,931. He directed that his remains should be buried in the town or parish in which he was residing immediately previous to his decease, in a vault, and that a tombstone should be erected over the same in accordance with a sketch plan and specification annexed to his will and signed by him, unless he shall have completed such in his lifetime.

ours to live on this earth, full of curiosity, and most happily endowed with a beautiful body, a keen intellect. How much better, we think, than the self-tormenting ascetic, the inhuman persecuting bigot, the victim of puerile superstitions, the narrow-minded, money-grubbing man of business—all types of Christian history and modern conditions.

"But in reality we cannot be Greeks and we cannot be pagans. A middle-aged man may wish he was a boy again but he cannot go back to his past. Neither can the human race."

AMUSEMENTS

AT THE **QUEEN'S** TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW
At 2.30, 5.10, 7.15 & 9.20.

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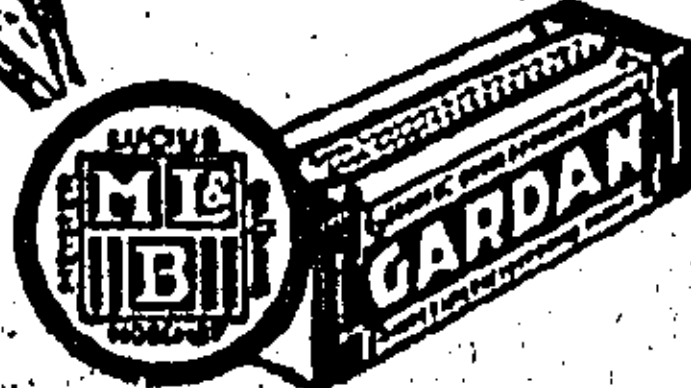
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